SONIC THE HEDGEHOG'S BUDDY
TAILS
Archie ADVENTURE SERIES
NO.3 FEB.
$1.50
#3 OF 3 ISSUE MINI-SERIES
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
46967
SYSTEM FUNCTION RUNNING DIAGNOSTIC CHECK ON WEAPON
BODY SHELL DAMAGED
WEAPONS LOCK & LOAD
SPAZ HARVO

SONIC THE HEDGEHOG'S FAVORITE FOX, TAILS, IS HIP DEEP IN HIS OWN ADVENTURE-- ALONG WITH A HIP GROUP OF FREEDOM FIGHTERS FROM DOWNUNDA! CAN THEY STOP ROBOTNIK'S NEW HENCHMAN, CROCBOT? READ ON...

TAILS TO ASTONISH

FEATURING CAPTAIN SUPER FOXMAN (*) THE MUTANT CYBORG CLONE

OUR HERO FOUND OUT THAT ROBOTNIK WAS ABOUT TO SUPPLY AN UNDERBOSS IN THE LAND OF DOWNUNDA!!! CAPT. SFXMCC (*) DECIDED TO PUT A STOP TO THIS NEFARIOUS PLAN!

THAT'S GOOD!

BUT, HE WAS DISCOVERED BY SWAT-BOTS PILOTING THE SUPPLY BLIMP AND SHOT DOWN, INTO THE EIGHT WAITING ARMS OF *OCTOBOT!*

OOF! THAT'S BAD!

KLAMMO

I'M BAD!

HOWEVER, BENEATH THE WAVES LIVE THE *FORTY FATHOMS FREEDOM FIGHTERS* WHO SAVED HIM!

THAT'S GOOD!

UPON ARRIVING IN DOWNUNDA, HE WAS SET UPON BY *CROCBOT'S* PACK OF FEROCIOUS MECHANICAL CANINES, THE *WING-DINGOES!*

OUCH! THAT'S BAD!

JUST IN THE NICK OF TIME, HE WAS RESCUED BY ANOTHER BAND OF FREE-DOM FIGHTERS LED BY LOCAL MARSUPIAL *WALT WALLABEE!*

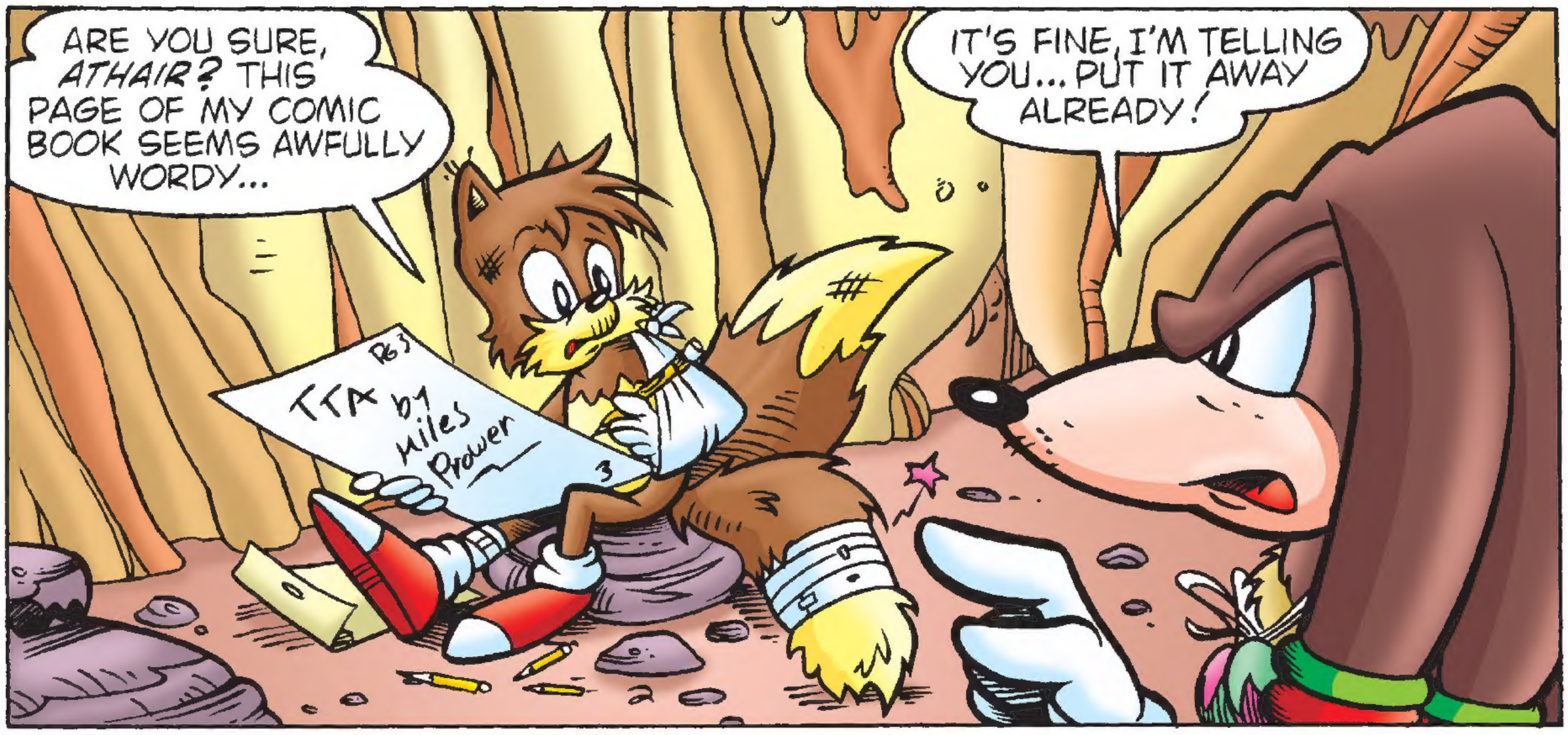
THAT'S GOOD!

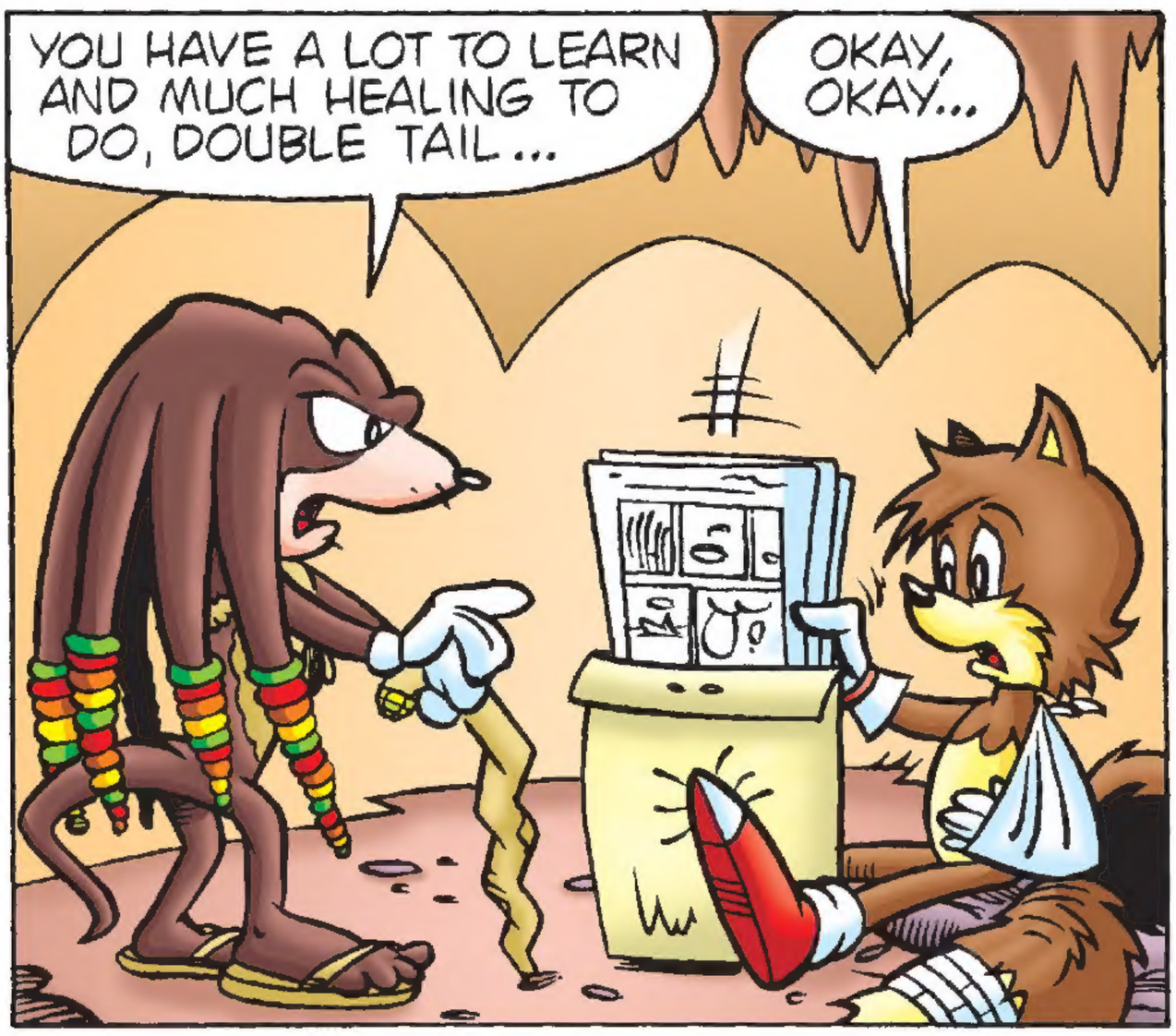
FIRST AID FOR SUPER HEROES

BADLY BRUISED, HE WAS TAKEN TO A DEEP, DARK CRATER WHERE A MYSTERIOUS STRANGER LIVED...

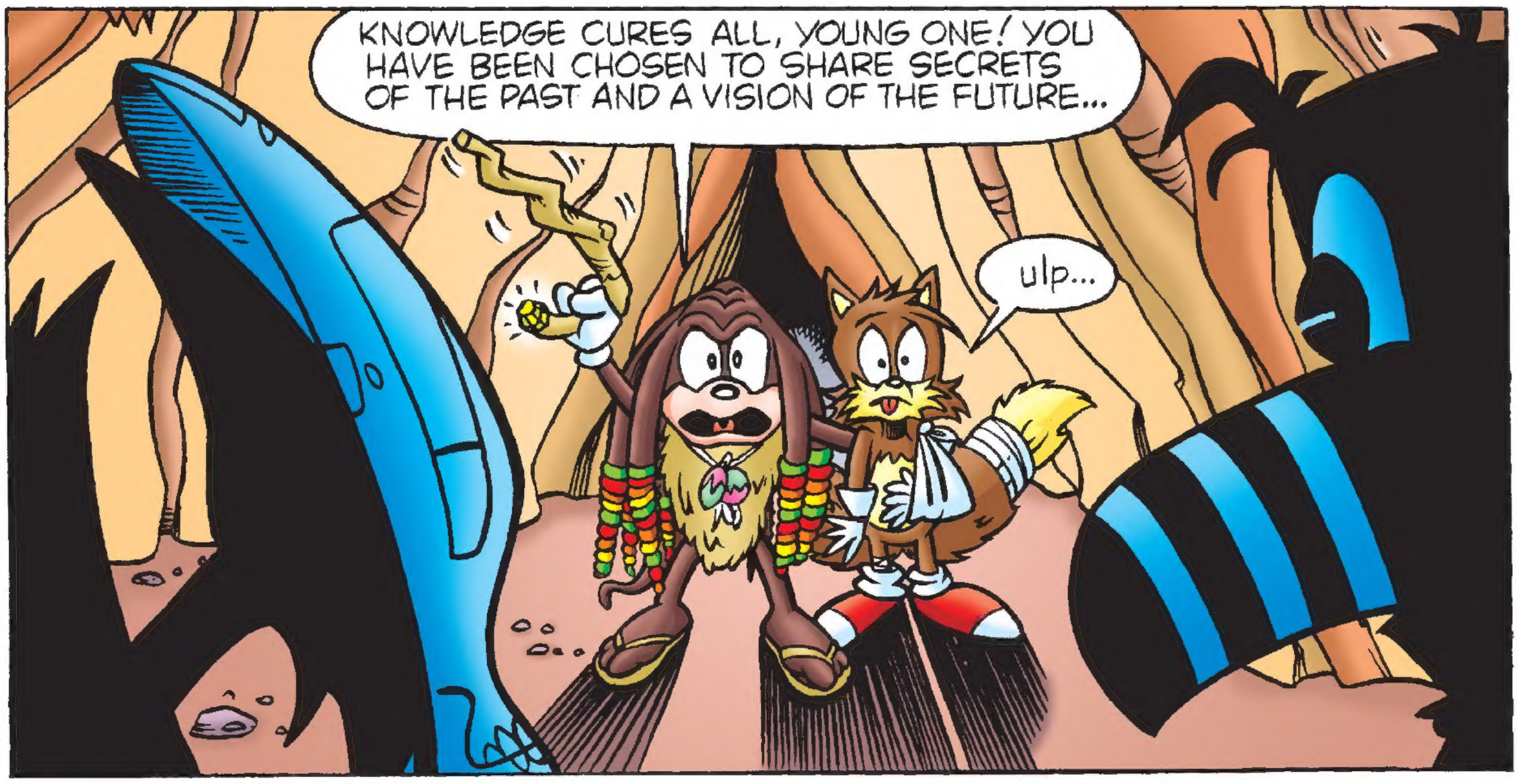
THAT'S BAD!

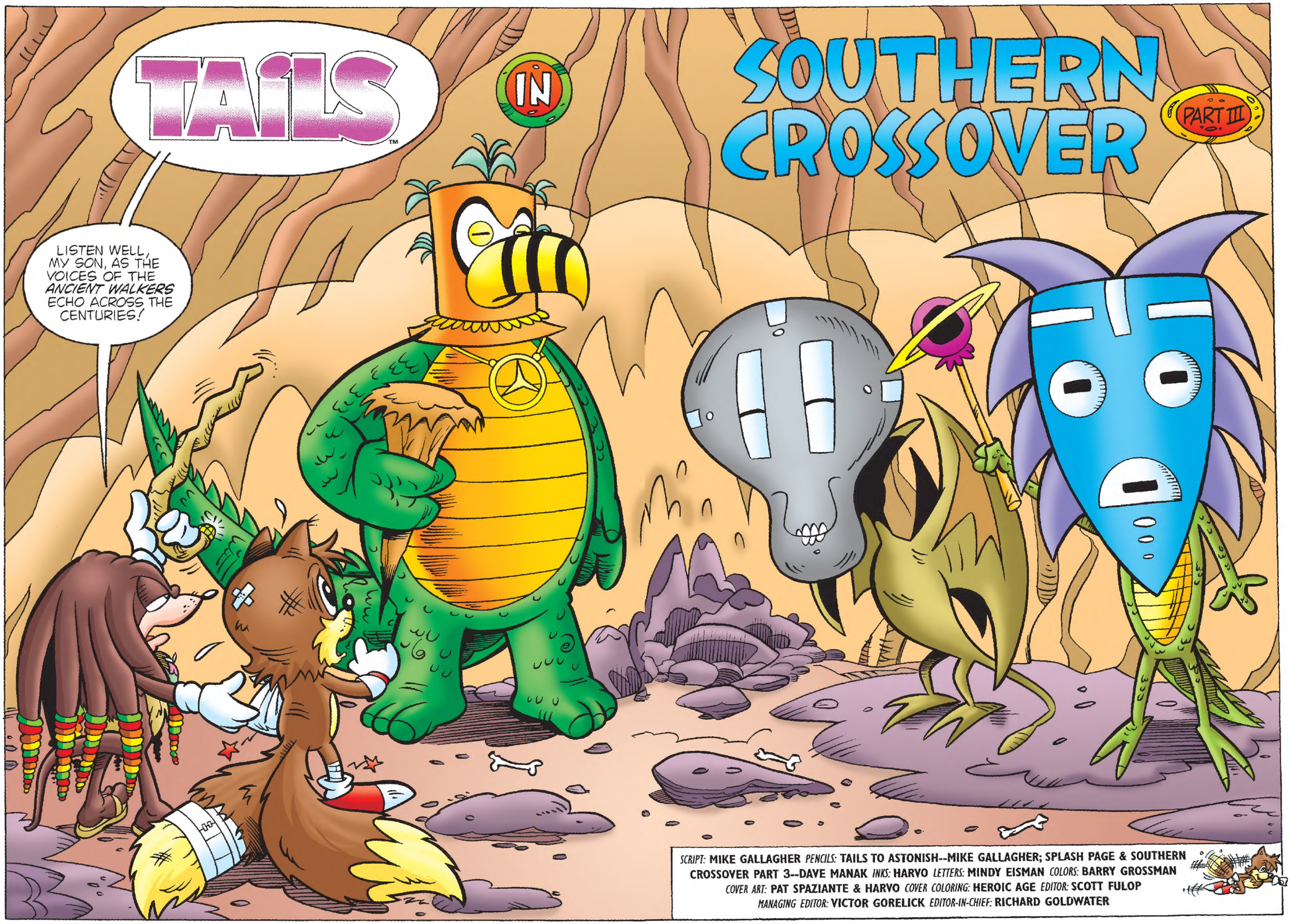
NO... IT'S GOOD!


ARE YOU SURE, ATHAIR? THIS PAGE OF MY COMIC BOOK SEEMS AWFULLY WORDY...
IT'S FINE, I'M TELLING YOU... PUT IT AWAY ALREADY!
TTA by Miles Prower


YOU HAVE A LOT TO LEARN AND MUCH HEALING TO DO, DOUBLE TAIL...
OKAY, OKAY...

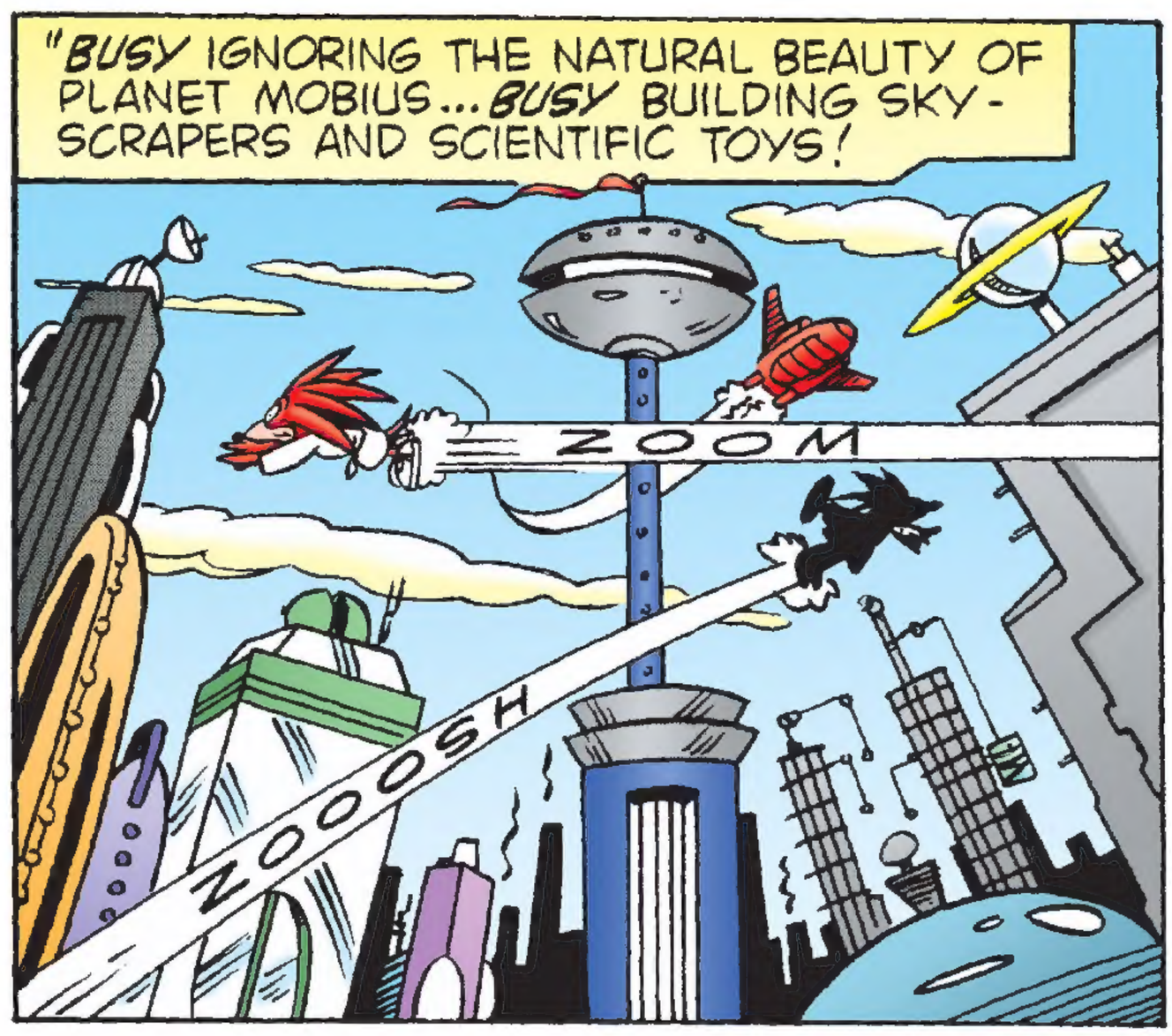
RISE AND WALK WITH ME...
OW! CAN WE DO THE HEALING PART FIRST?

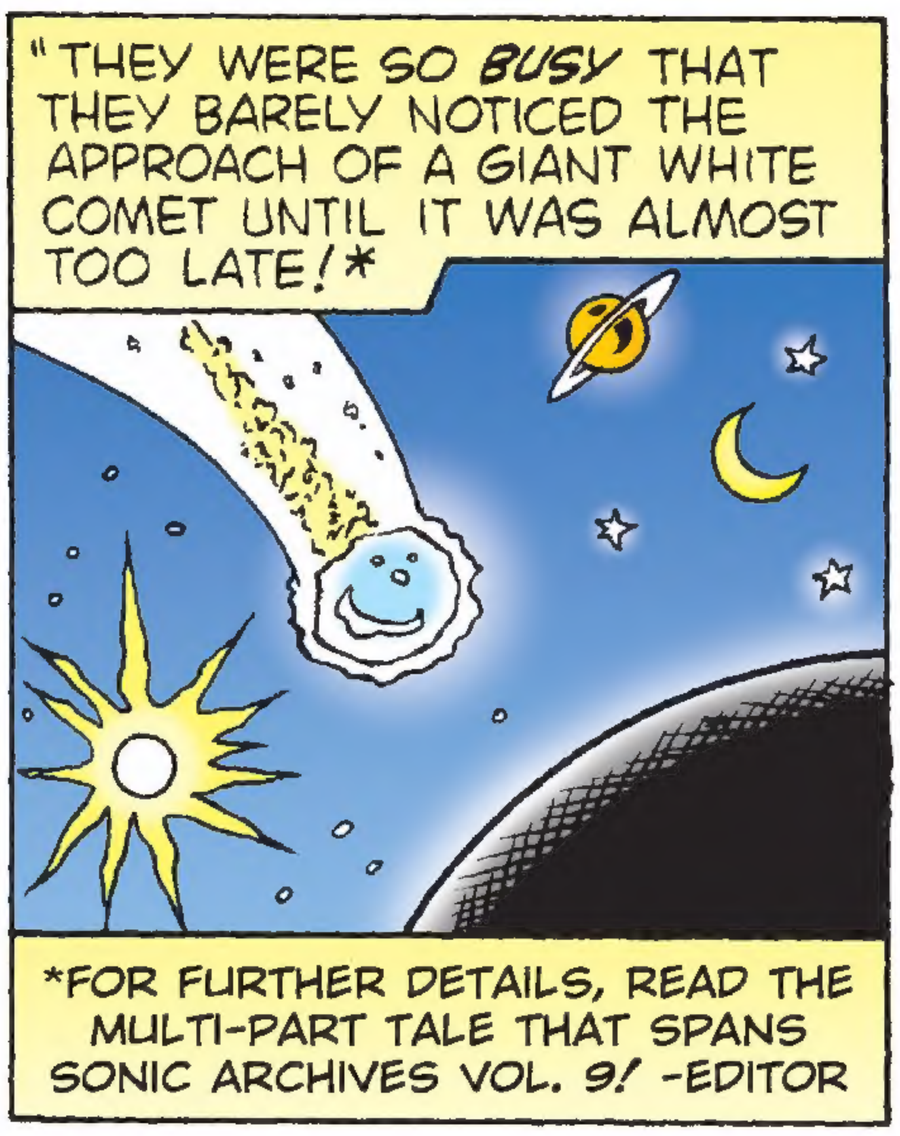

KNOWLEDGE CURES ALL, YOUNG ONE! YOU HAVE BEEN CHOSEN TO SHARE SECRETS OF THE PAST AND A VISION OF THE FUTURE...
ulp...

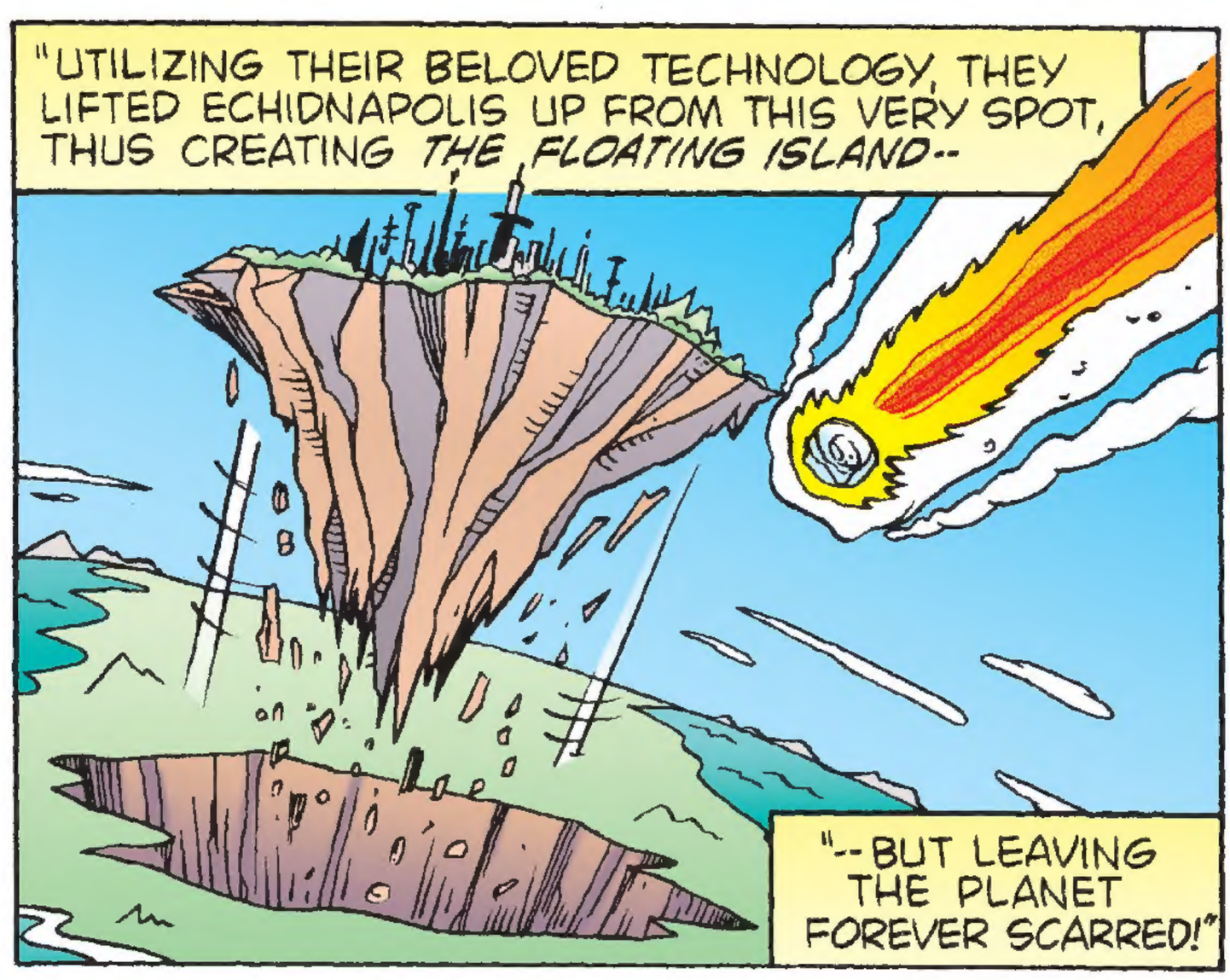


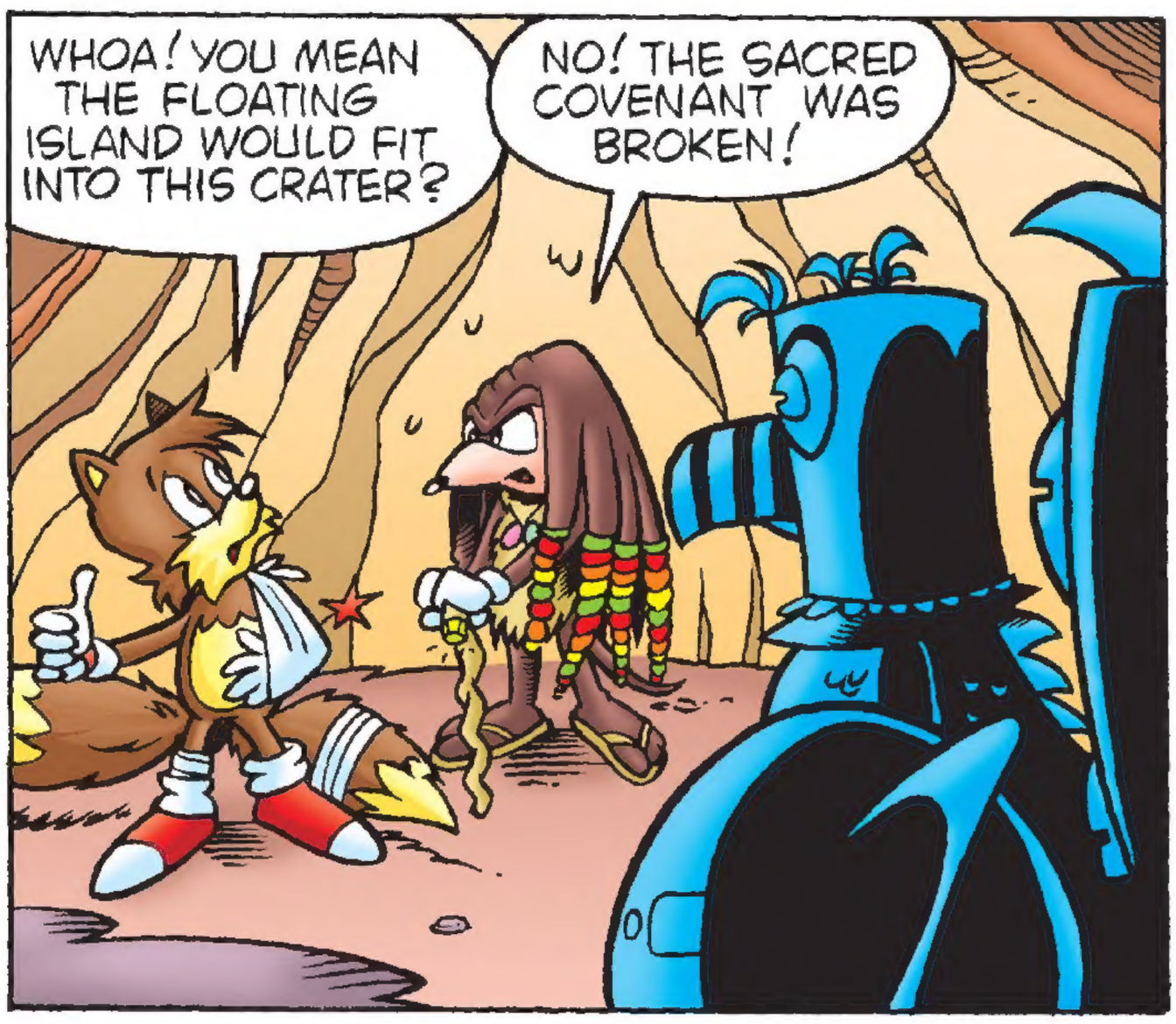
SCRIPT: **MIKE GALLAGHER** *PENCILS:* **TAILS TO ASTONISH--MIKE GALLAGHER; SPLASH PAGE & SOUTHERN CROSSOVER PART 3--DAVE MANAK** *INKS:* **HARVO** *LETTERS:* **MINDY EISMAN** *COLORS:* **BARRY GROSSMAN**
COVER ART: **PAT SPAZIANTE & HARVO** *COVER COLORING:* **HEROIC AGE** *EDITOR:* **SCOTT FULOP**
MANAGING EDITOR: **VICTOR GORELICK** *EDITOR-IN-CHIEF:* **RICHARD GOLDWATER**

UMM...LOOK I'D LOVE TO STAY, BUT I'M REALLY BUSY...
AHH..."BUSY!" MY ECHIDNA ANCESTORS WERE "BUSY," TOO...


"BUSY IGNORING THE NATURAL BEAUTY OF PLANET MOBIUS...BUSY BUILDING SKY-SCRAPERS AND SCIENTIFIC TOYS!
ZOOM
ZOOOOSH


"THEY WERE SO BUSY THAT THEY BARELY NOTICED THE APPROACH OF A GIANT WHITE COMET UNTIL IT WAS ALMOST TOO LATE!*
*FOR FURTHER DETAILS, READ THE MULTI-PART TALE THAT SPANS SONIC ARCHIVES VOL. 9! -EDITOR


"UTILIZING THEIR BELOVED TECHNOLOGY, THEY LIFTED ECHIDNAPOLIS UP FROM THIS VERY SPOT, THUS CREATING THE FLOATING ISLAND--
"--BUT LEAVING THE PLANET FOREVER SCARRED!"


WHOA! YOU MEAN THE FLOATING ISLAND WOULD FIT INTO THIS CRATER?
NO! THE SACRED COVENANT WAS BROKEN!

C'MON...DON'T TALK IN RIDDLES! MY FRIEND SONIC KNOWS KNUCKLES, THE GUARDIAN OF THE ISLAND!
chuckle DOES HE?..

I KNOW HIM, TOO! FOR CENTURIES, *OUR* FAMILY WAS CHARGED WITH *PROTECTING* THE FLOATING ISLAND! MY SON SUCCEEDED ME-- THEN HIS SON--AND NOW... *KNUCKLES!*

:gasp: YOU'RE HIS *GREAT GRANDFATHER?*

INDEED! BUT YOU'VE DISTRACTED ME! THERE IS NO TIME TO SPEAK OF THIS...

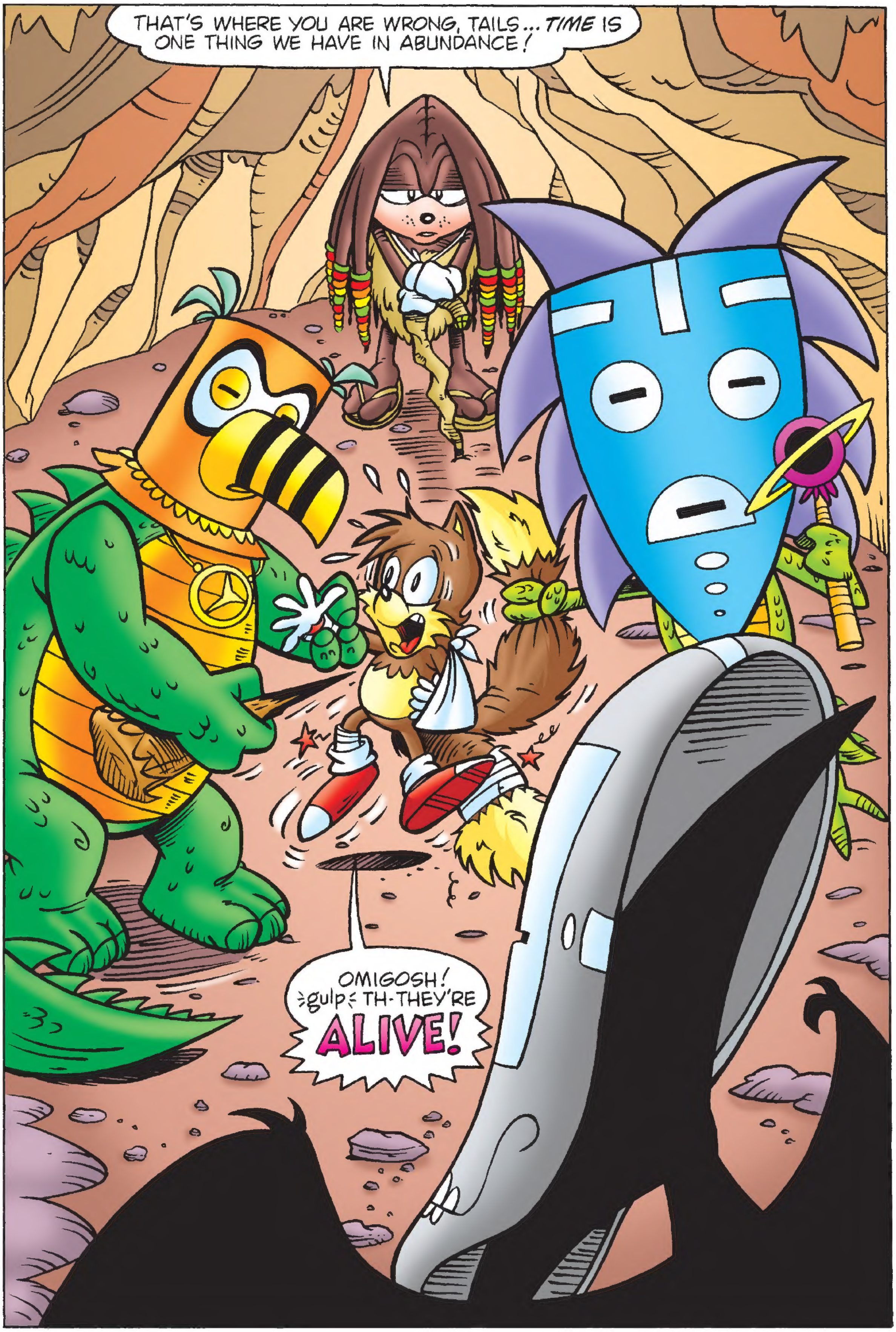
YOU'RE RIGHT, ATHAIR! I'M ON A MISSION-- I'VE GOTTA GO!

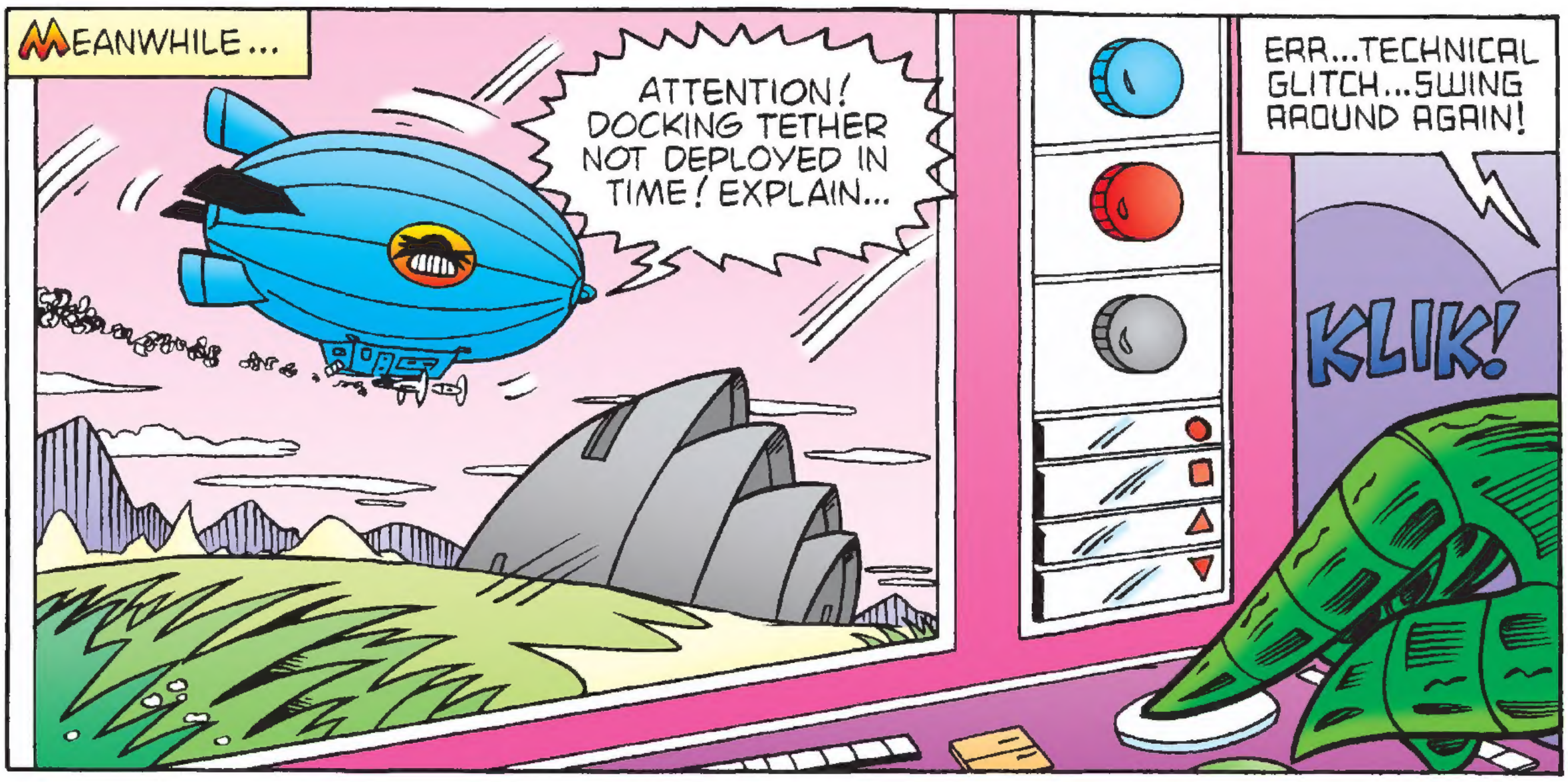
NO...YOU MISUNDERSTAND! YOU MUST REMAIN HERE AND LEARN THE WAY!

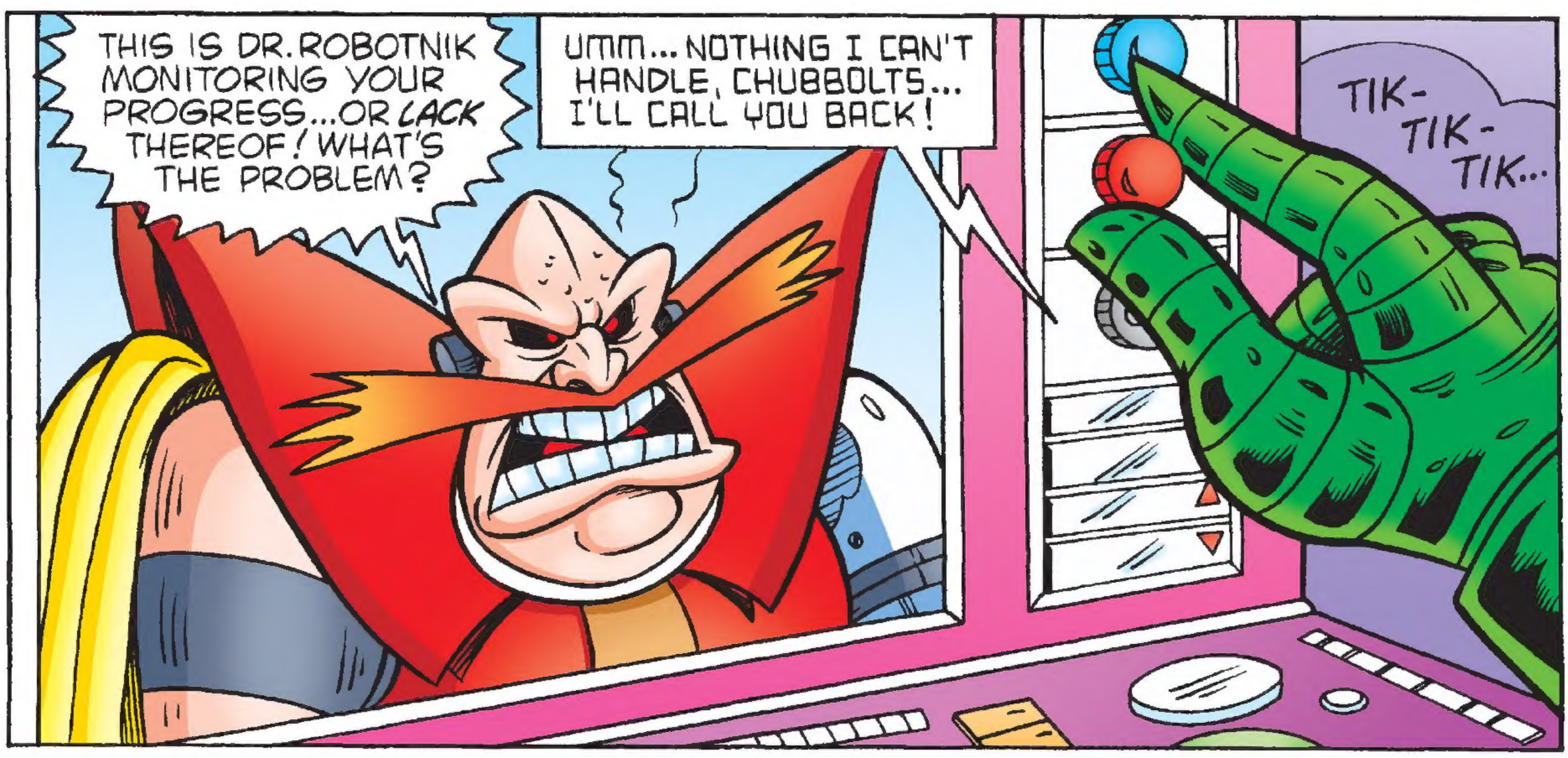
JUST SHOW ME THE *WAY OUT!*

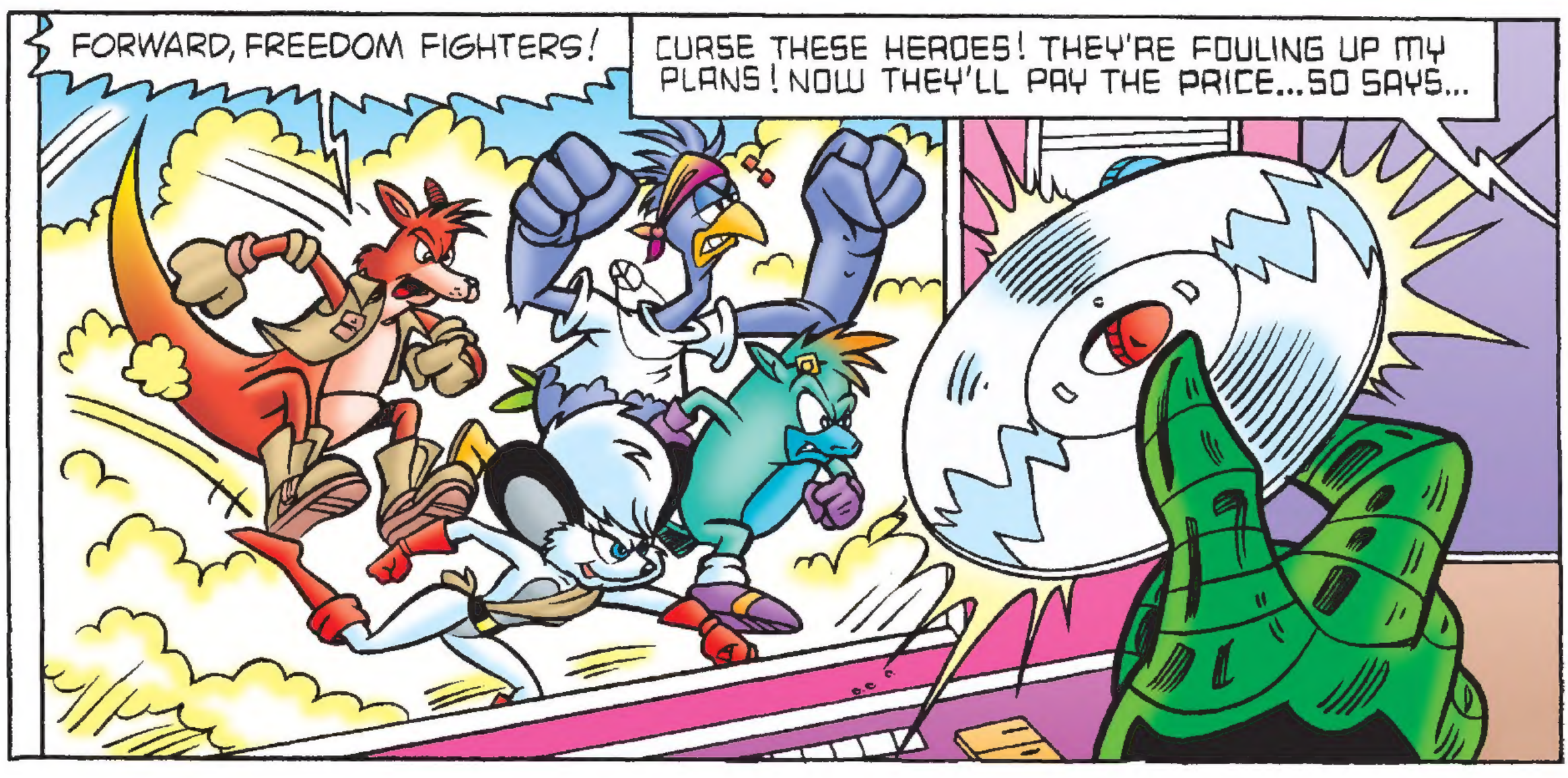
PLEASE...YOU HAVE BEEN CHOSEN! THE ANCIENT WALKERS WISH TO COMMUNE...

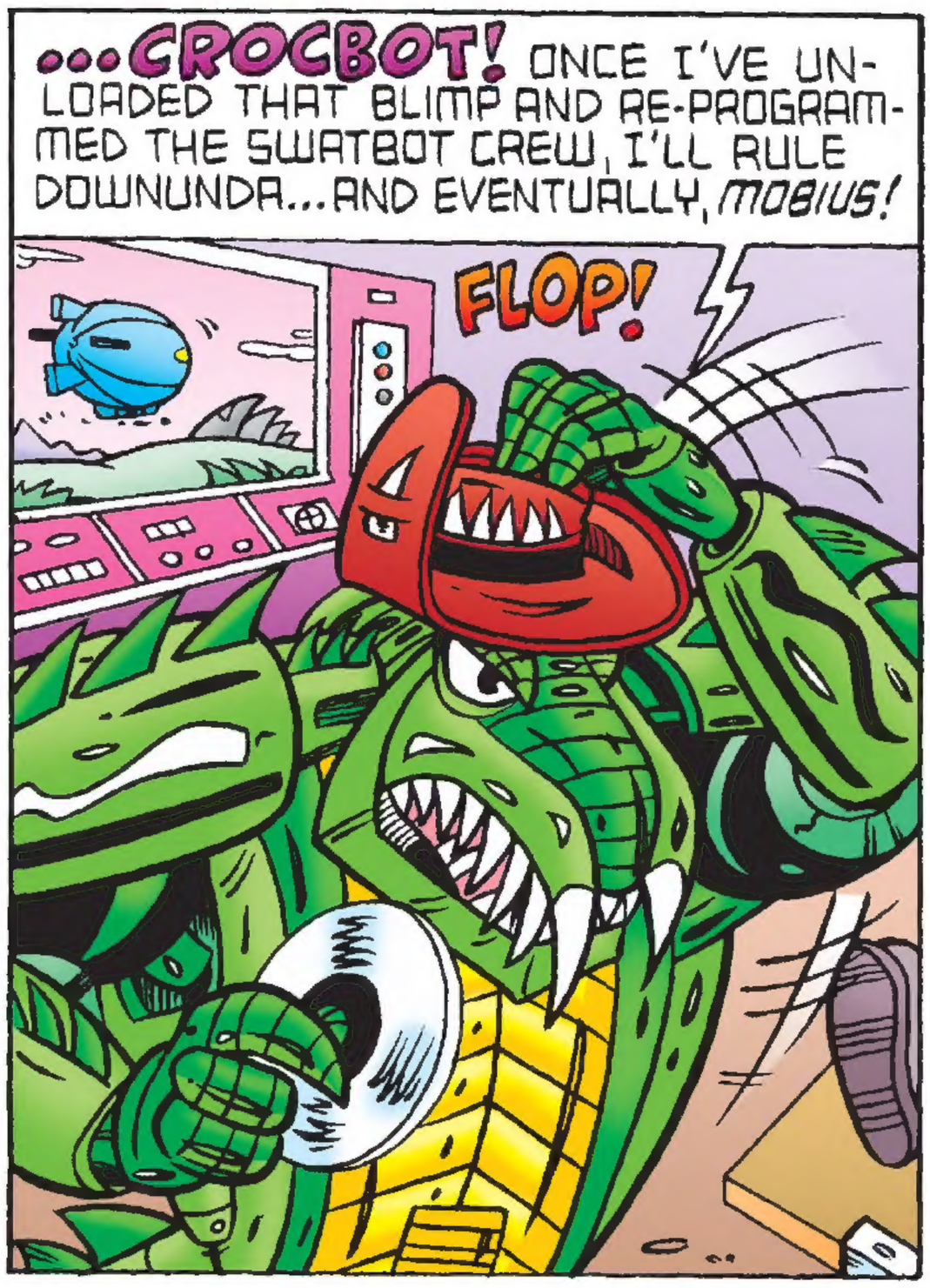
TALK TO A BUNCH OF STATUES? SORRY... THERE'S NO TIME!

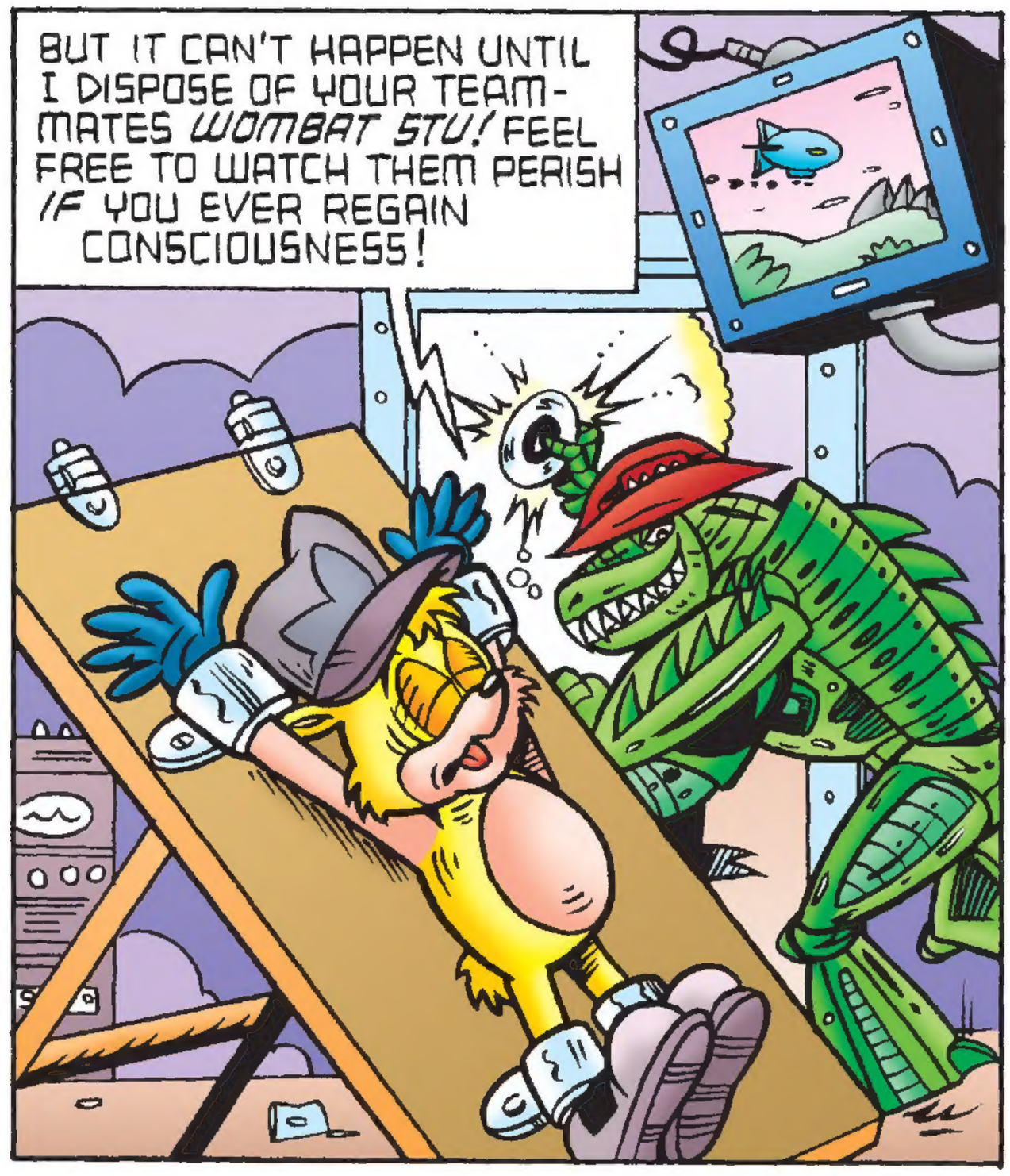

THAT'S WHERE YOU ARE WRONG, TAILS... *TIME* IS ONE THING WE HAVE IN ABUNDANCE!
OMIGOSH! ≥gulp≤ TH-THEY'RE ALIVE!

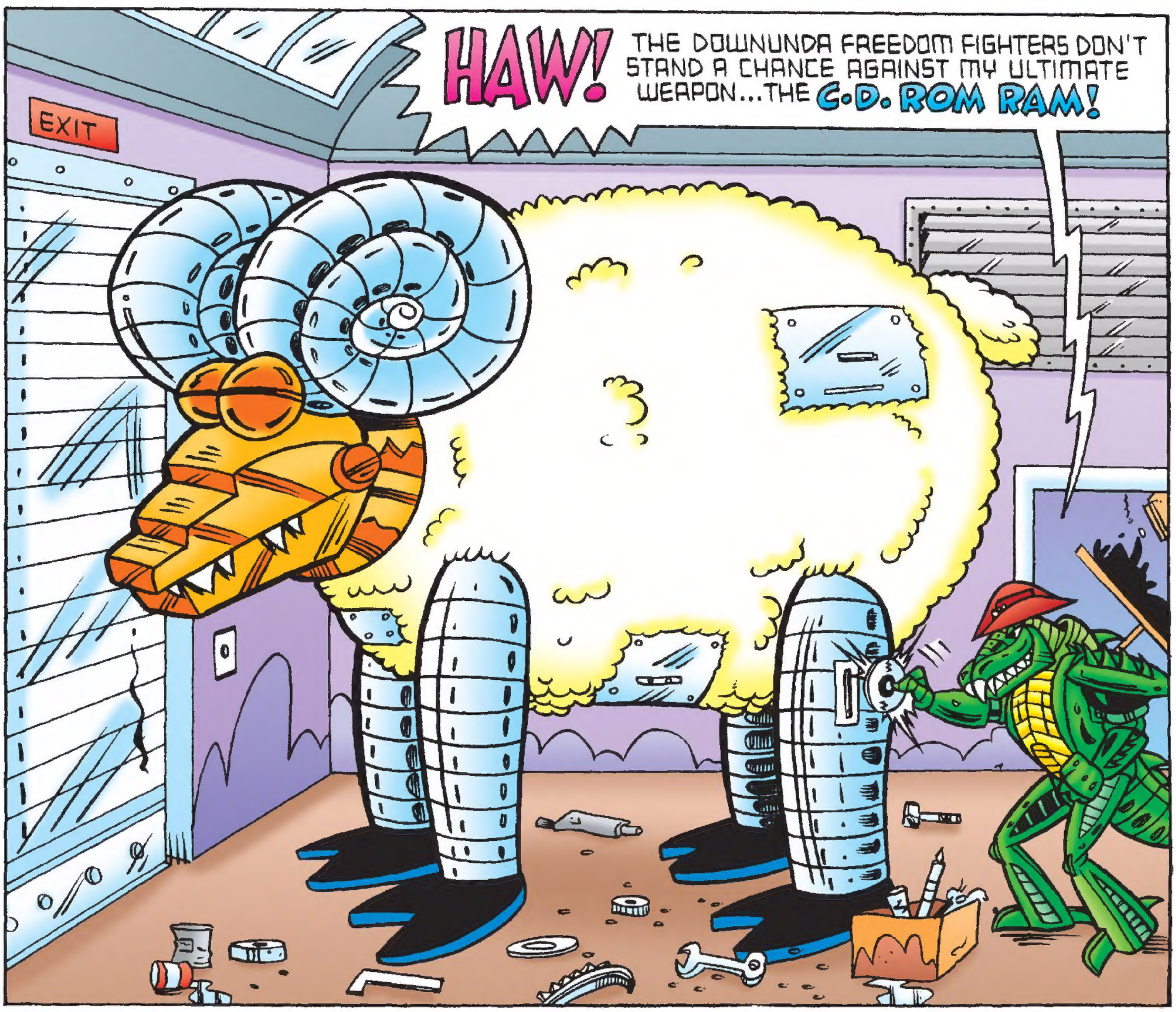

MEANWHILE...
ATTENTION! DOCKING TETHER NOT DEPLOYED IN TIME! EXPLAIN...
ERR...TECHNICAL GLITCH...SWING AROUND AGAIN!
KLIK!

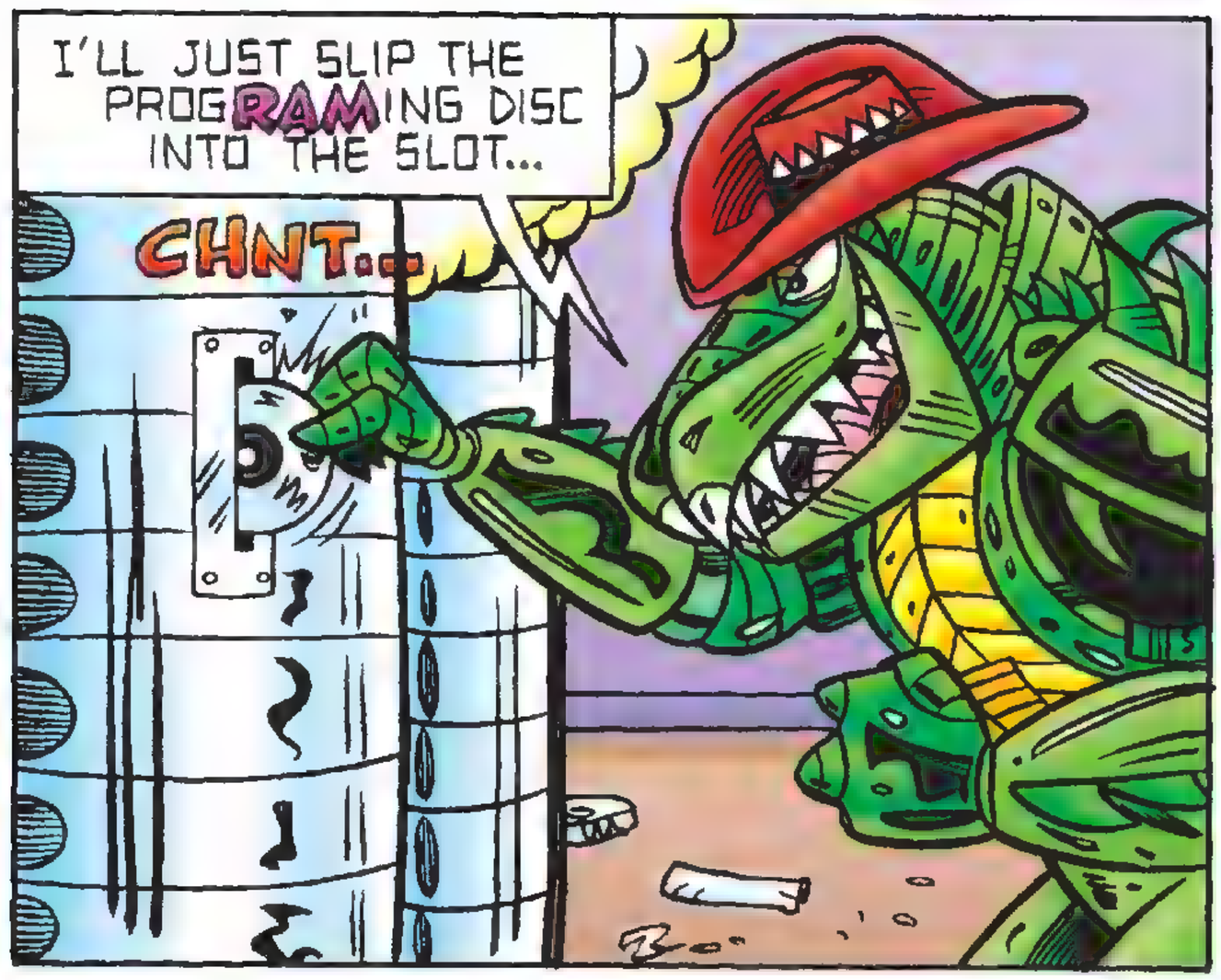

THIS IS DR. ROBOTNIK MONITORING YOUR PROGRESS...OR *LACK* THEREOF! WHAT'S THE PROBLEM?
UMM... NOTHING I CAN'T HANDLE, CHUBBOLTS... I'LL CALL YOU BACK!
TIK-TIK-TIK...

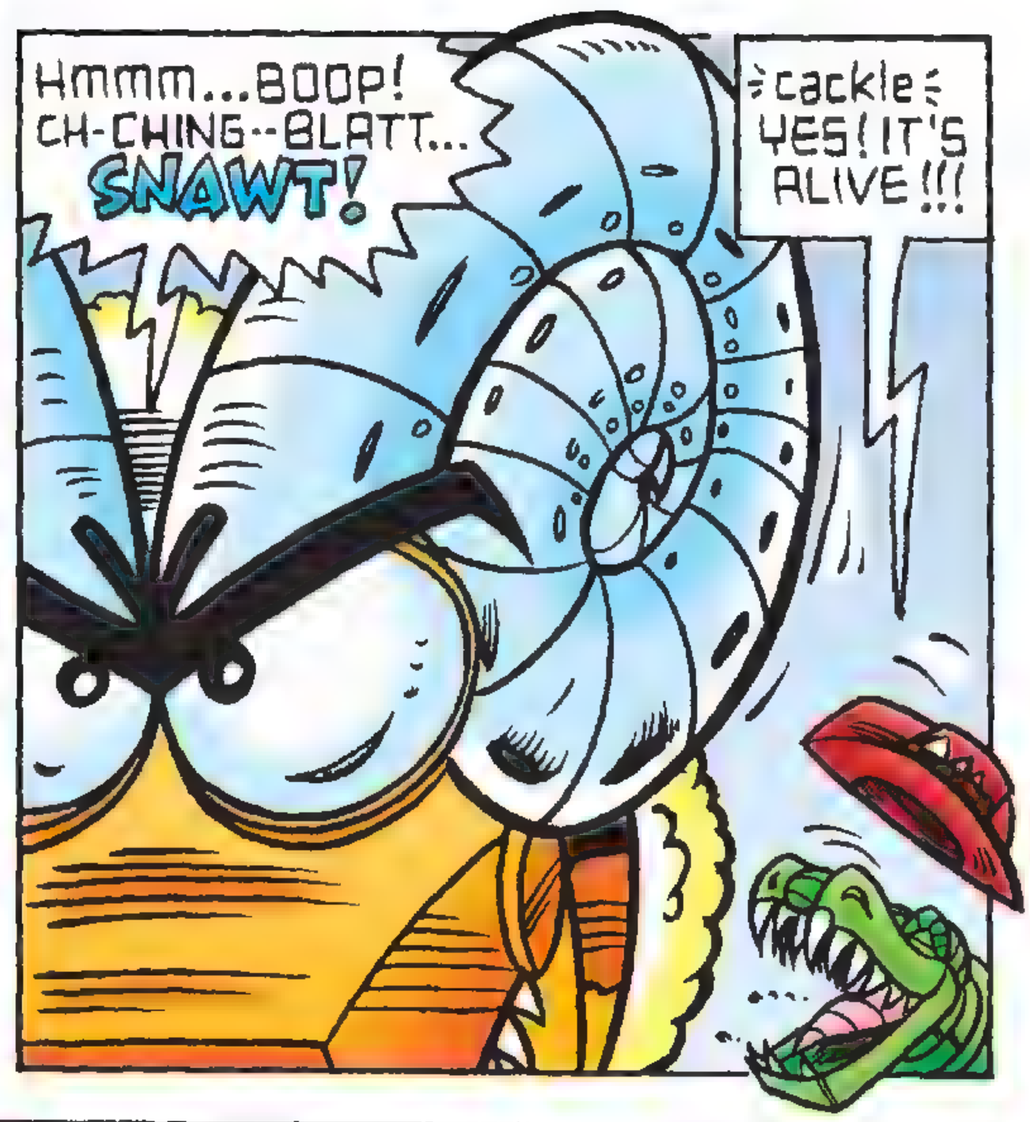

FORWARD, FREEDOM FIGHTERS!
CURSE THESE HEROES! THEY'RE FOULING UP MY PLANS! NOW THEY'LL PAY THE PRICE...SO SAYS...

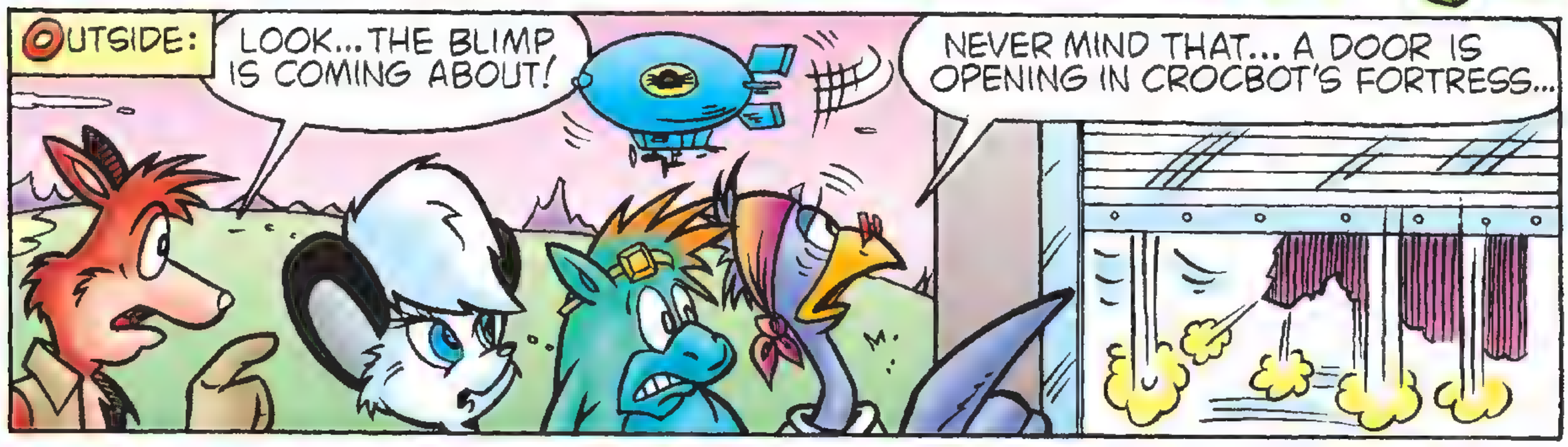

...CROCBOT! ONCE I'VE UNLOADED THAT BLIMP AND RE-PROGRAMMED THE SWATBOT CREW, I'LL RULE DOWNUNDA...AND EVENTUALLY, MOBIUS!
FLOP!

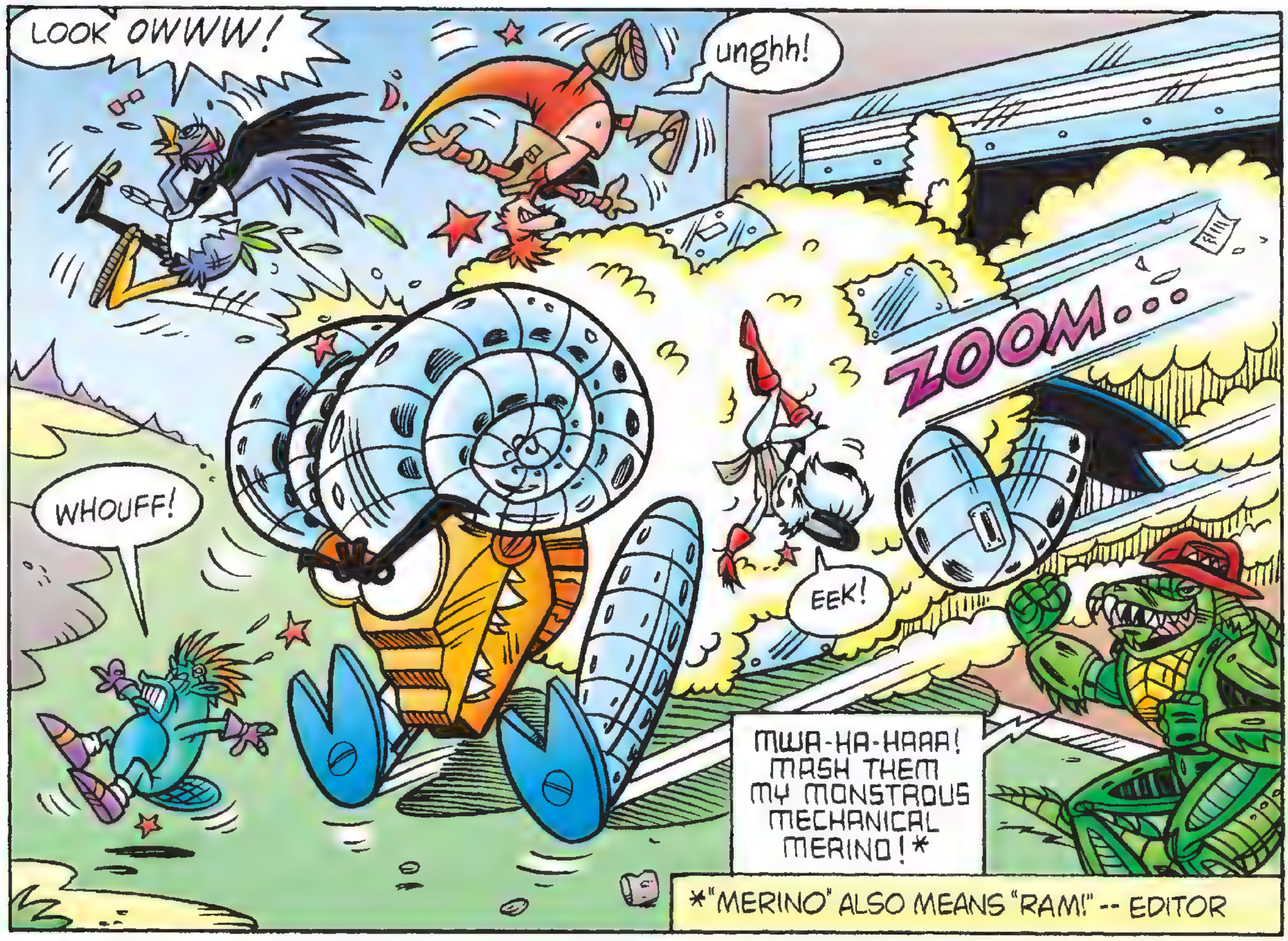

BUT IT CAN'T HAPPEN UNTIL I DISPOSE OF YOUR TEAMMATES WOMBAT STU! FEEL FREE TO WATCH THEM PERISH IF YOU EVER REGAIN CONSCIOUSNESS!

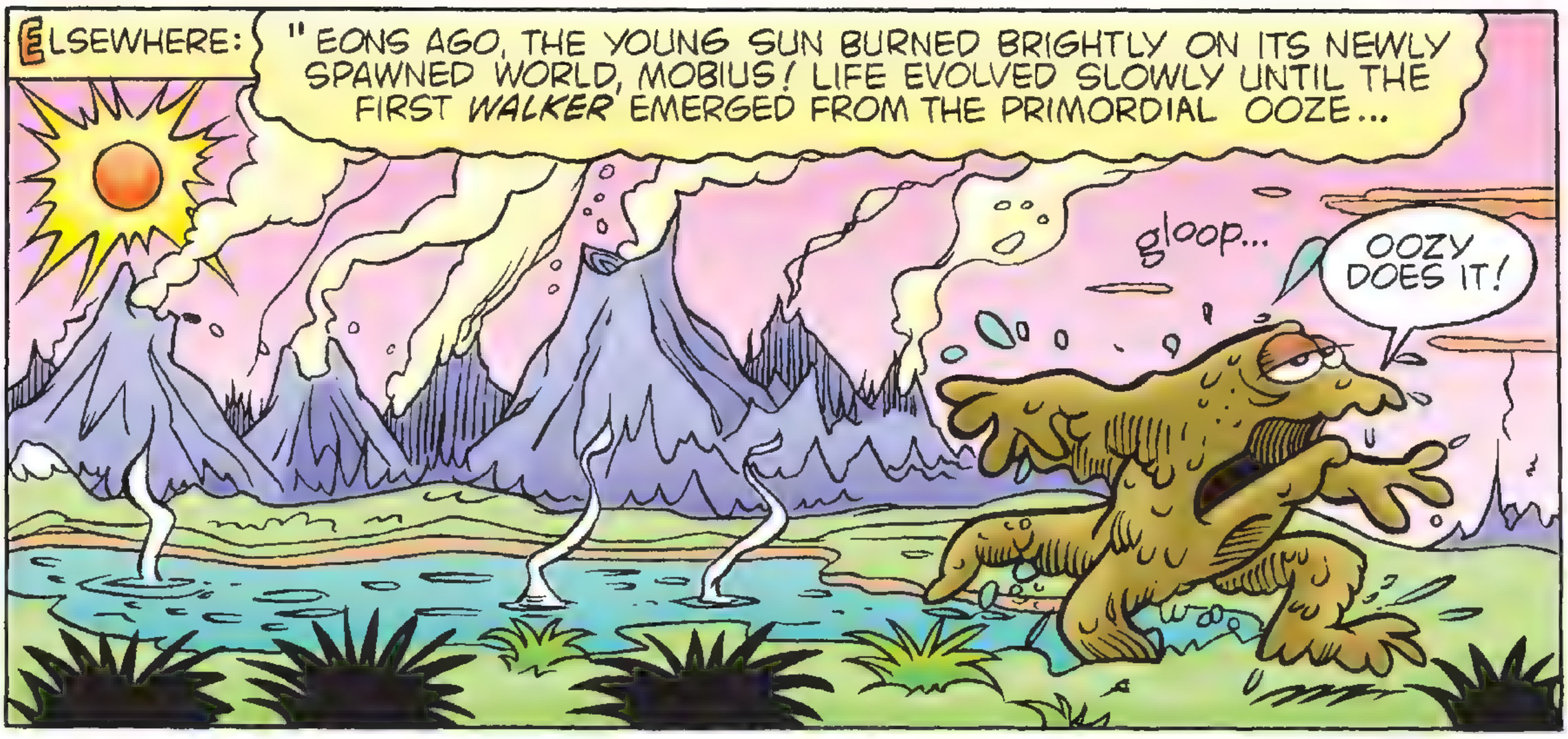

HAW!
THE DOWNUNDA FREEDOM FIGHTERS DON'T STAND A CHANCE AGAINST MY ULTIMATE WEAPON...THE C.D. ROM RAM!
EXIT

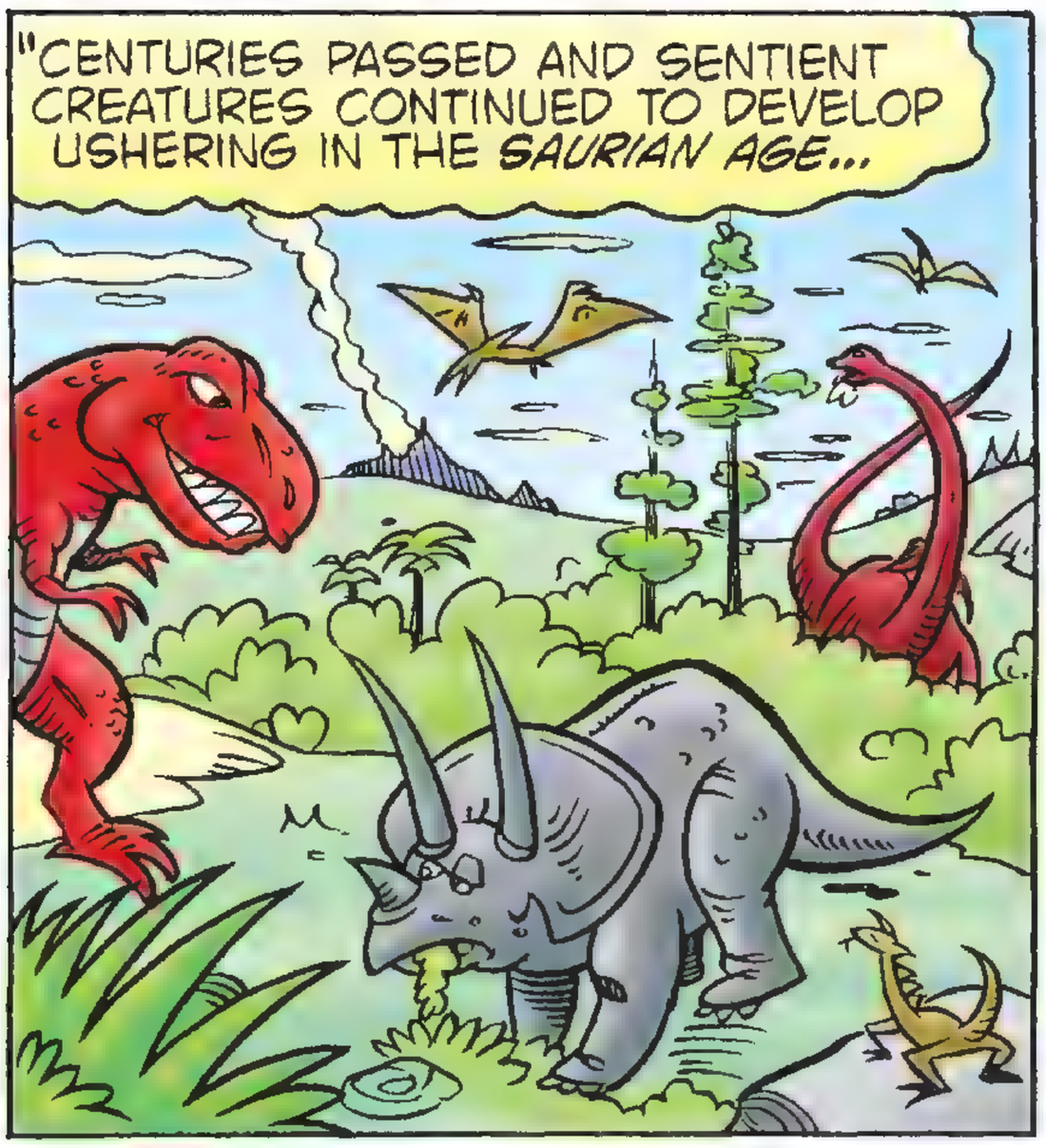

I'LL JUST SLIP THE PROGRAMING DISC INTO THE SLOT...
CHNT...


Hmmm...BOOP! CH-CHING--BLATT... SNAWT!
=cackle= YES! IT'S ALIVE!!!

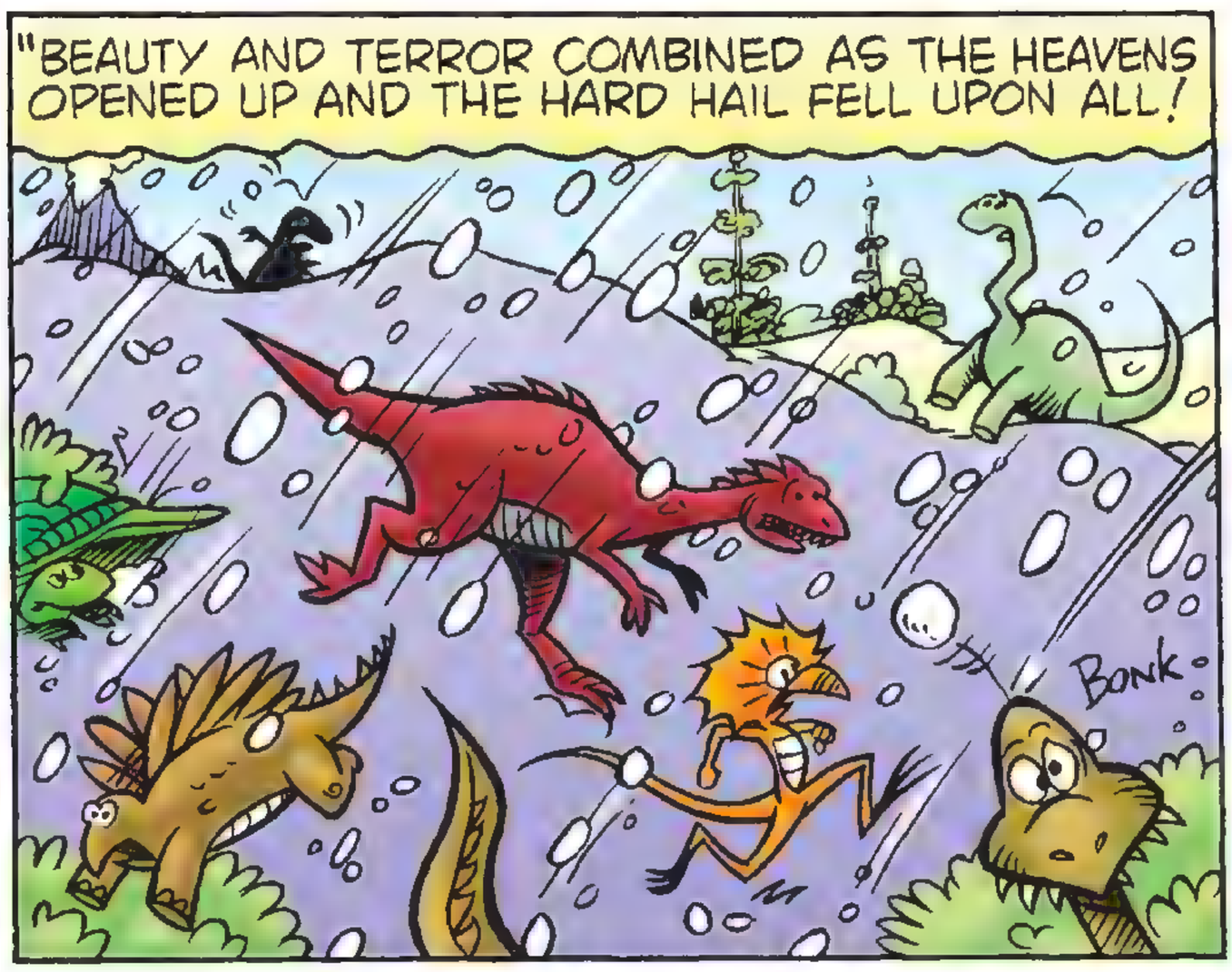

OUTSIDE:
LOOK...THE BLIMP IS COMING ABOUT!
NEVER MIND THAT... A DOOR IS OPENING IN CROCBOT'S FORTRESS...

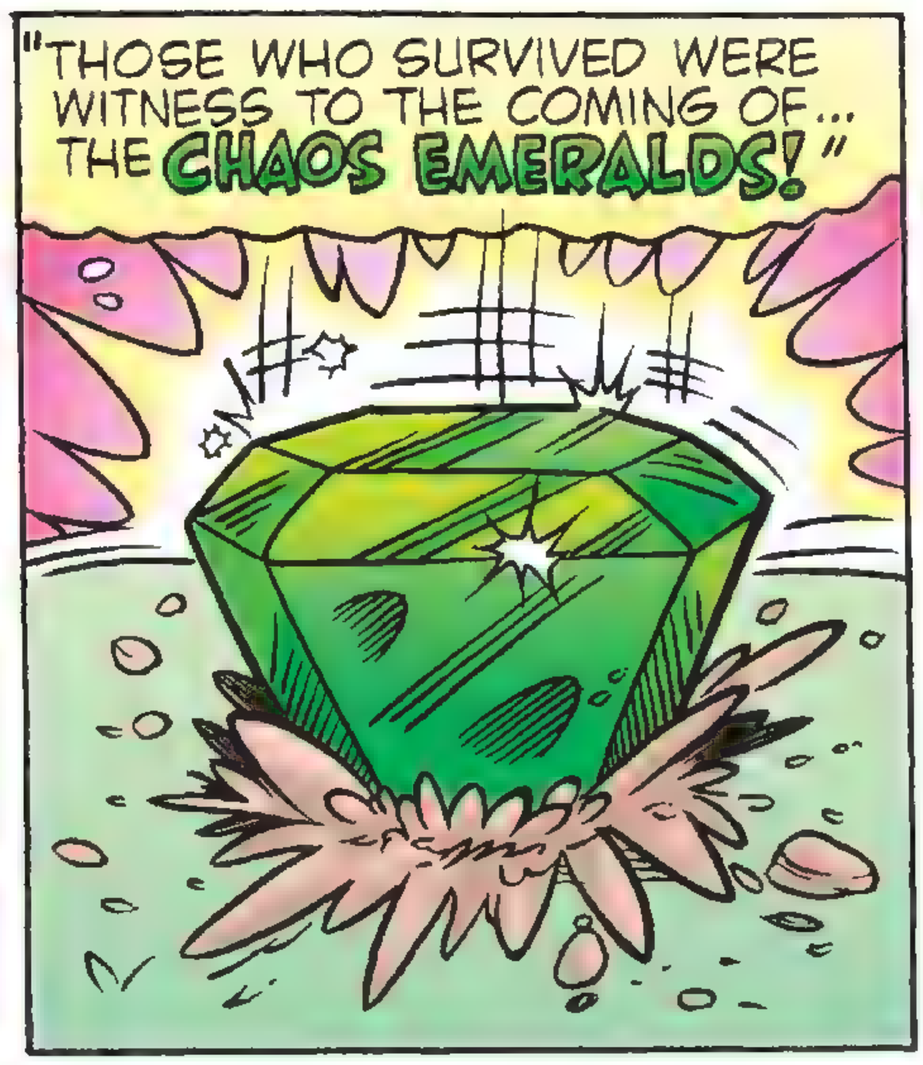

LOOK OWWW!
unghh!
ZOOM...
WHOUFF!
EEK!
MWA-HA-HAAA! MASH THEM MY MONSTROUS MECHANICAL MERINO!*
*"MERINO" ALSO MEANS "RAM!" -- EDITOR


ELSEWHERE:
"EONS AGO, THE YOUNG SUN BURNED BRIGHTLY ON ITS NEWLY SPAWNED WORLD, MOBIUS! LIFE EVOLVED SLOWLY UNTIL THE FIRST *WALKER* EMERGED FROM THE PRIMORDIAL OOZE...
gloop...
OOZY DOES IT!


"CENTURIES PASSED AND SENTIENT CREATURES CONTINUED TO DEVELOP USHERING IN THE *SAURIAN AGE*...

"A BRUTAL BALANCE WAS STRUCK AND THIS SIMPLE SOCIETY THRIVED-- UNTIL THE SKY ABOVE TURNED *GREEN*!


"BEAUTY AND TERROR COMBINED AS THE HEAVENS OPENED UP AND THE HARD HAIL FELL UPON ALL!
Bonk


"THOSE WHO SURVIVED WERE WITNESS TO THE COMING OF... THE CHAOS EMERALDS!"

"OVER CENTURIES, THESE CRYSTALS HAVE INSPIRED MANY CULTURAL WONDERS:

"PAGAN WORSHIP...

"...TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCES CAPABLE OF DRIVING THOSE WHO HARNESS IT *MAD*..*

RUMMMMM BBLLLLE...

*AS MENTIONED IN SONIC ARCHIVES VOL.9! --EDITOR

"...AND IN HANDS OF *PURE EVIL*, THEY CAN BE CORRUPTED INTO WEAPONS OF *DESTRUCTION!*

"BUT, ABSOLUTE ENERGY CANNOT BE *CREATED* OR *DESTROYED*--

"--THE INFINITE POWER OF THE CHAOS EMERALDS SHALL REALIGN FOR A HIGHER PURPOSE!

"THE *CHOSEN ONE* WHO SHALL GATHER THEM WILL WALK AMONGST YOU...

"...AND THE GREAT HARMONY SHALL BEGIN!"

SO IT IS WRITTEN AND THEREFORE, SO IT MUST COME TO BE...

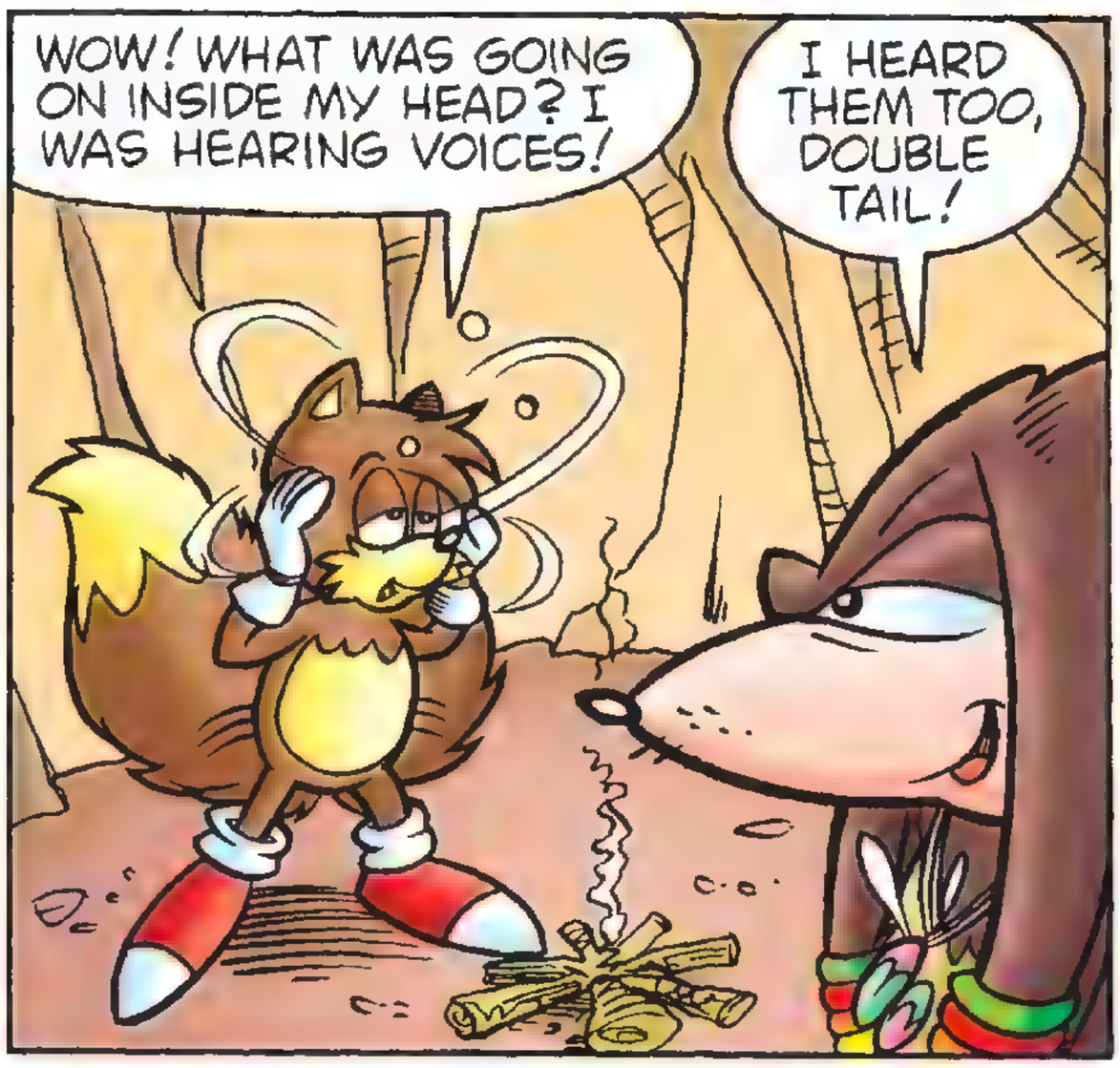
WELL, WELL! THAT WAS A VERY INTERESTING STORY...

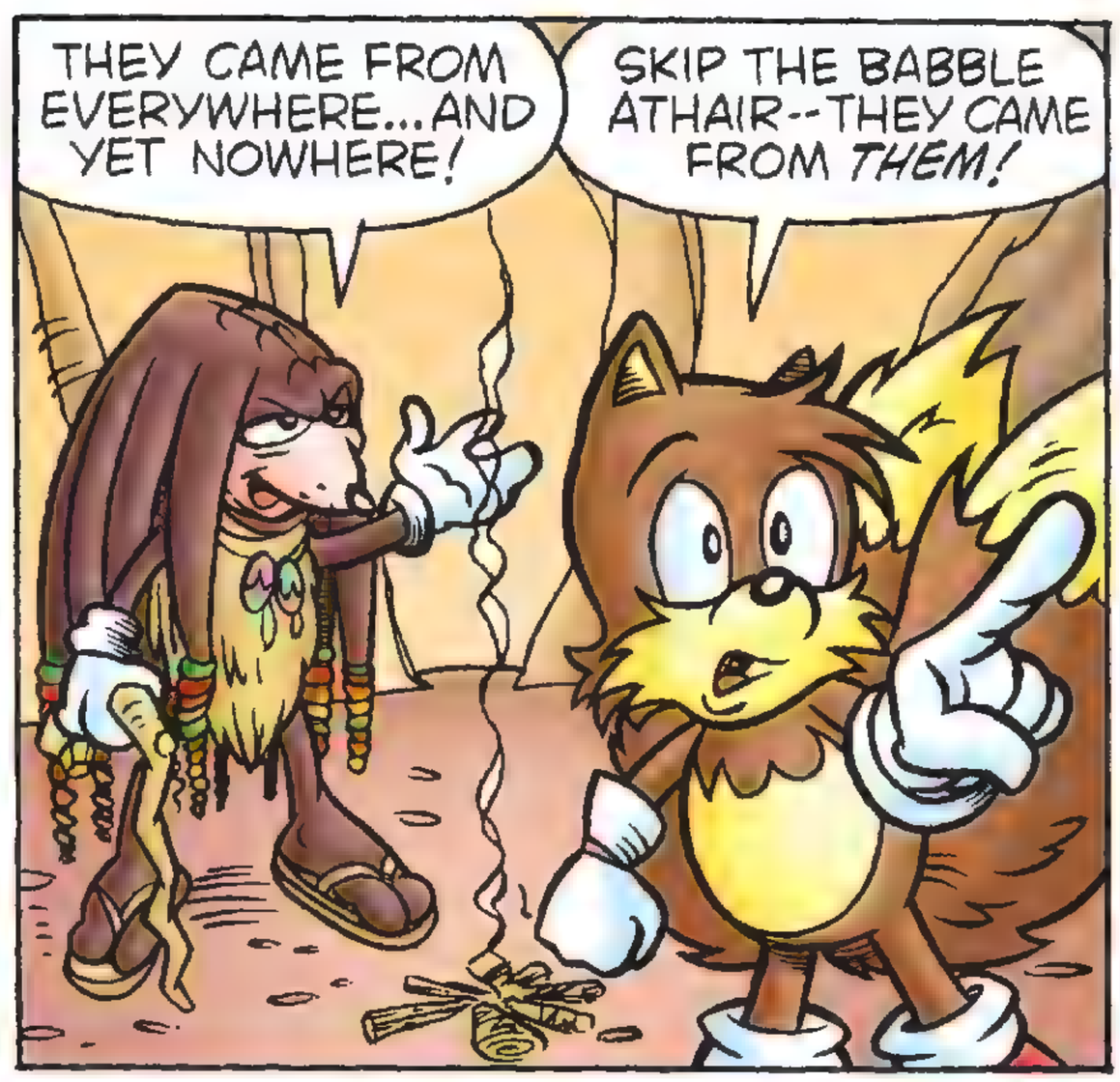
crackle

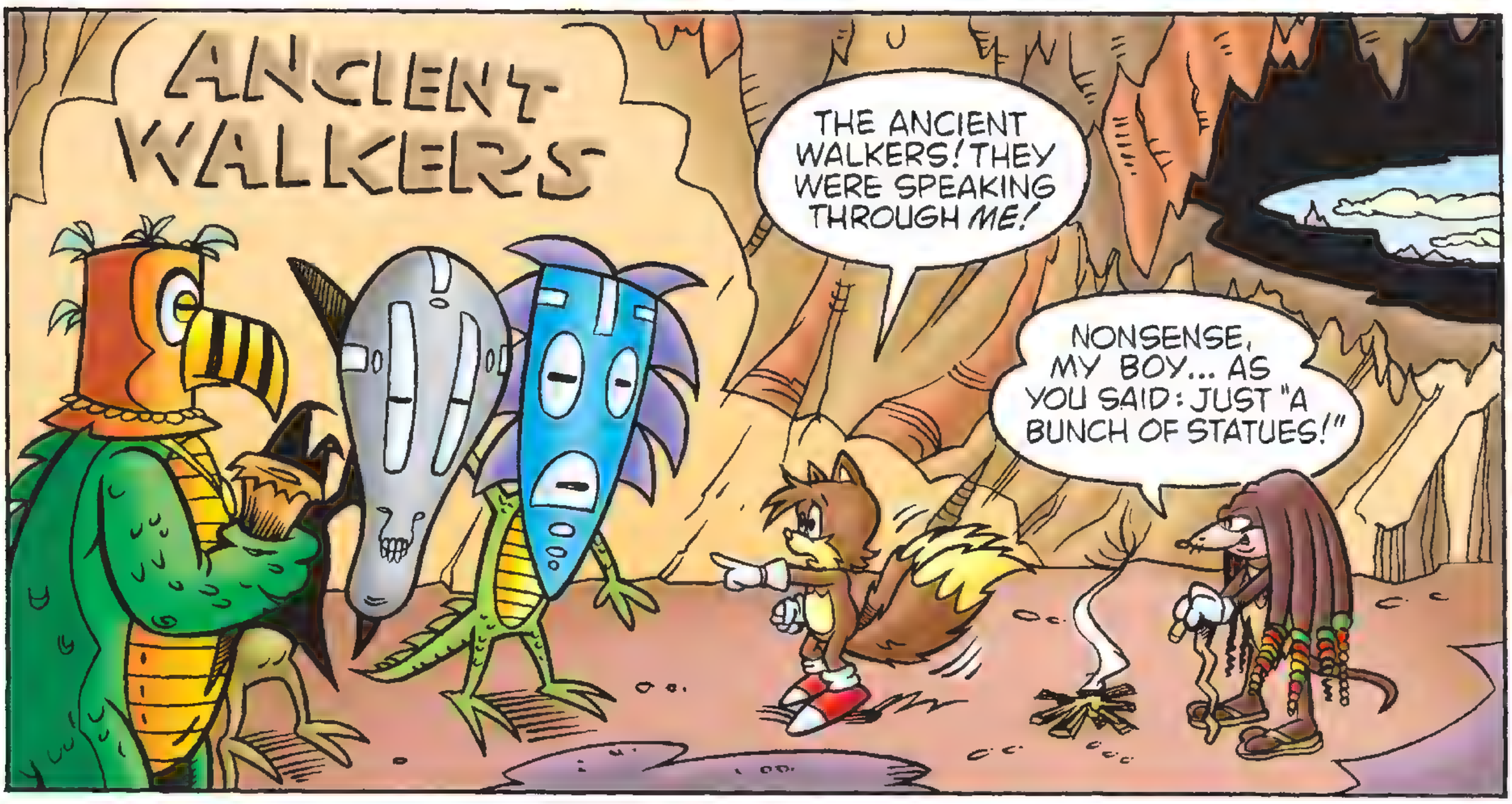
...TAILS!

HUH? WHA--WHO?.. WH-WHERE AM I?!

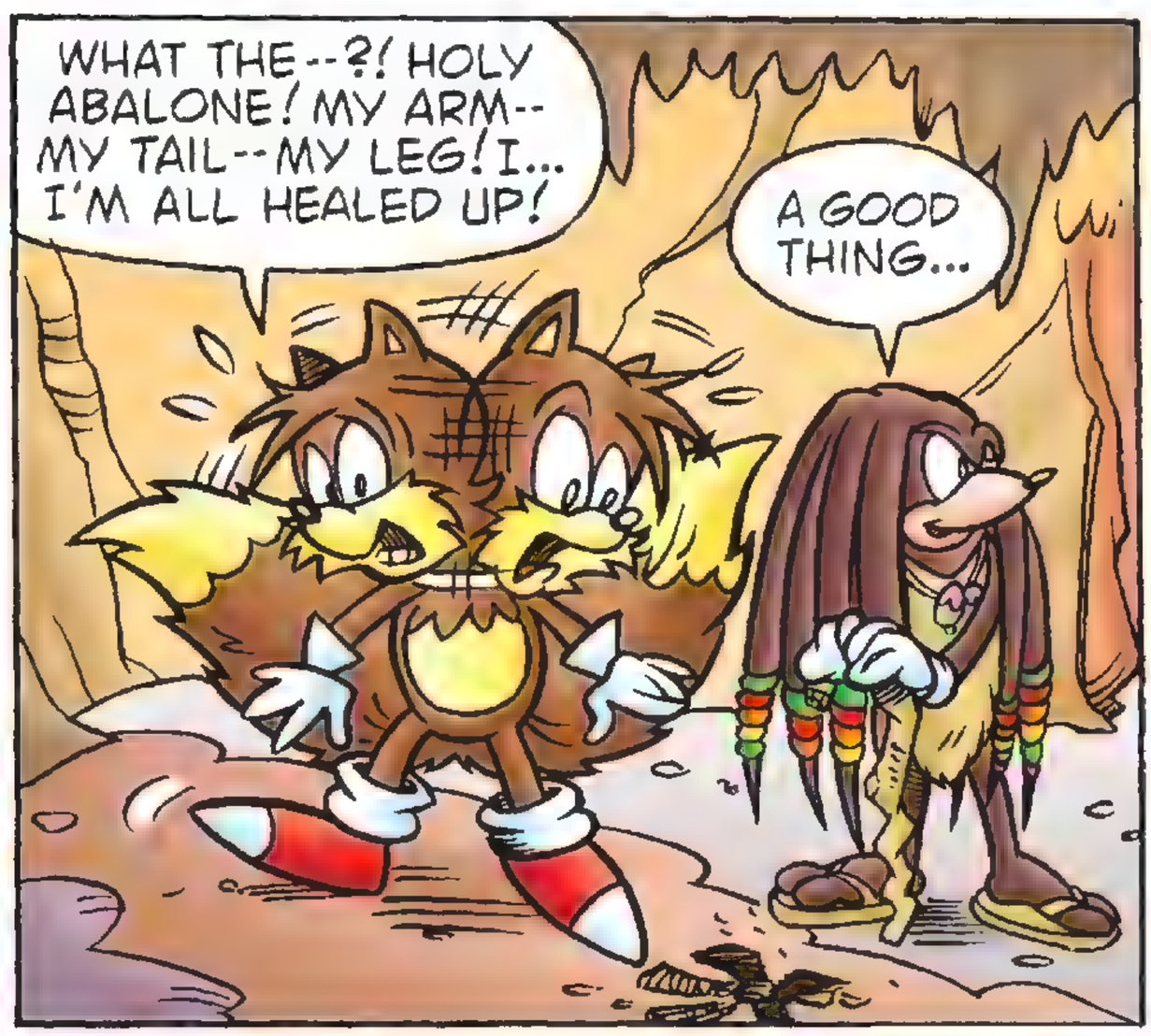
fizzle...

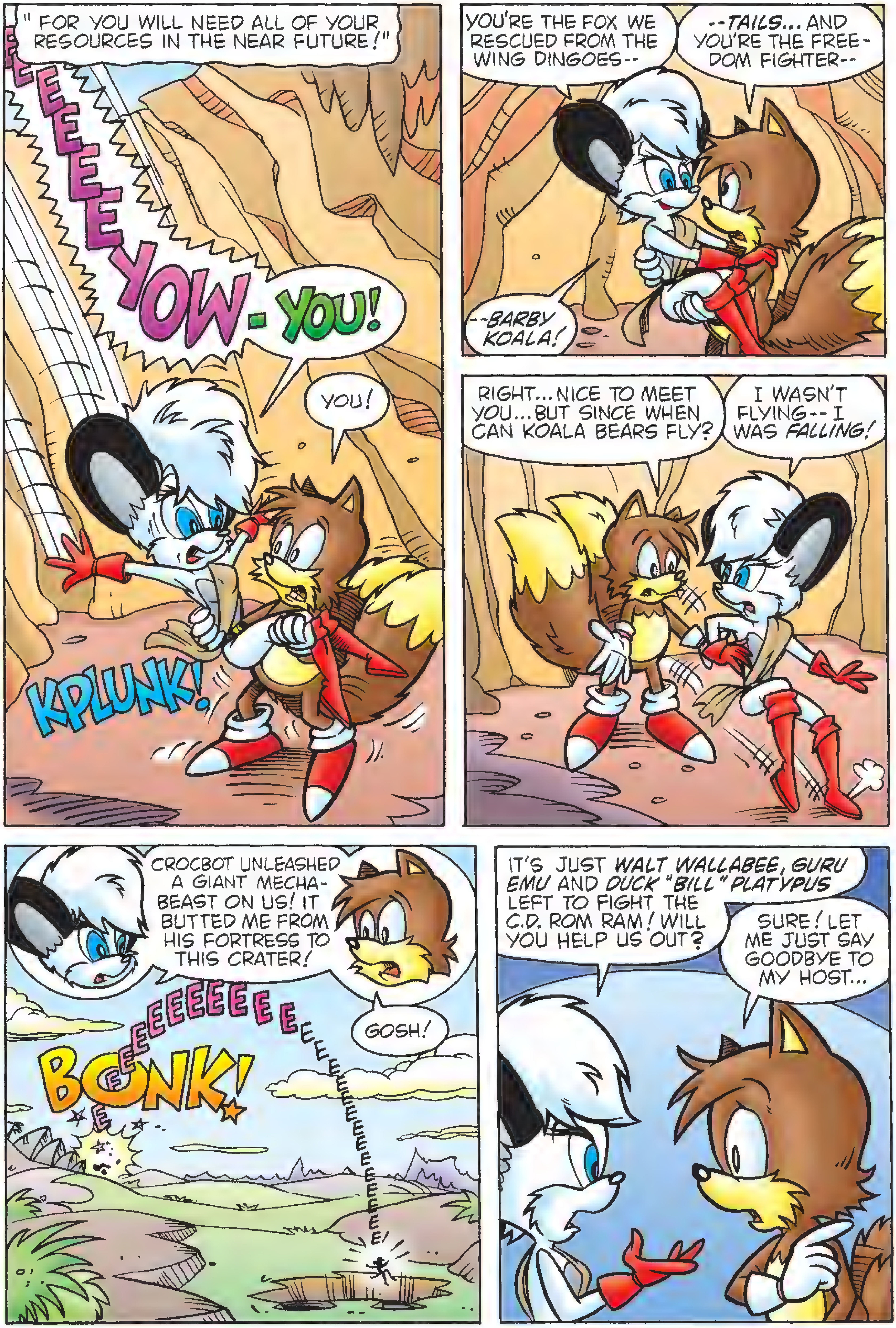

WOW! WHAT WAS GOING ON INSIDE MY HEAD? I WAS HEARING VOICES!
I HEARD THEM TOO, DOUBLE TAIL!

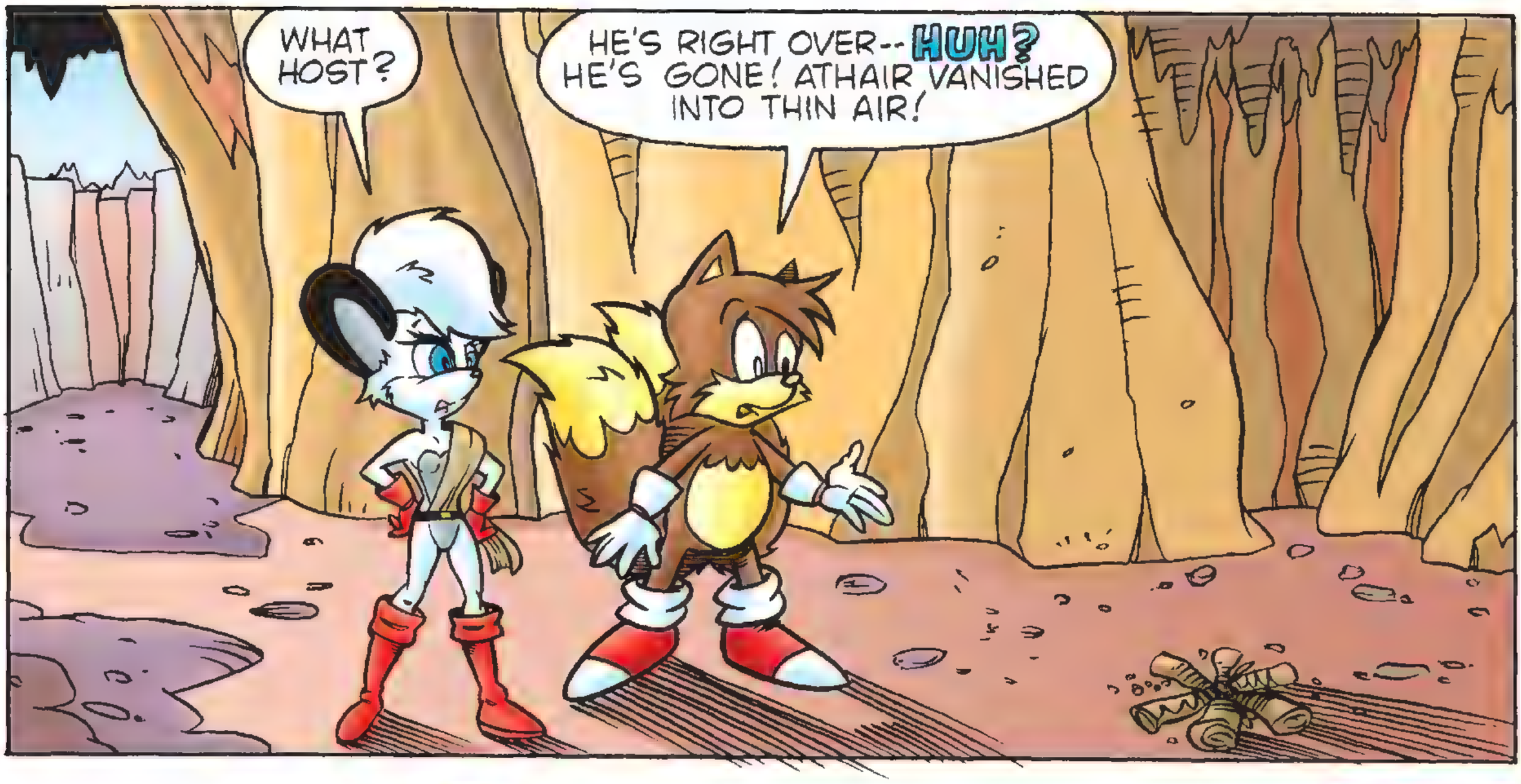

THEY CAME FROM EVERYWHERE...AND YET NOWHERE!
SKIP THE BABBLE ATHAIR--THEY CAME FROM *THEM*!

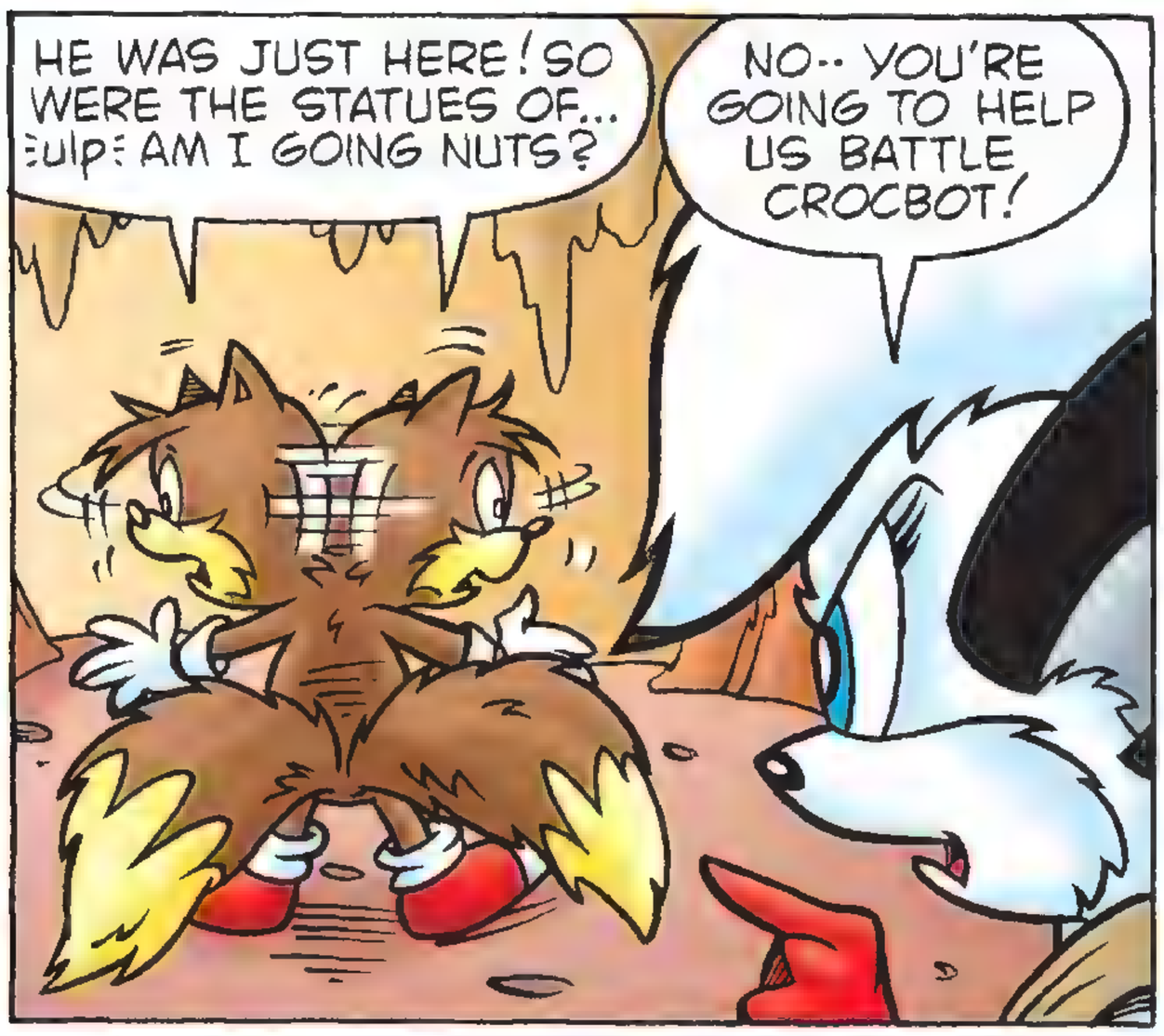

ANCIENT WALKERS
THE ANCIENT WALKERS! THEY WERE SPEAKING THROUGH *ME*!
NONSENSE, MY BOY... AS YOU SAID: JUST "A BUNCH OF STATUES!"

YEAH...RIGHT! HooHah! THOSE WING DINGOES MUST'VE INJURED ME WORSE THAN I THOUGHT!
WHAT INJURIES?

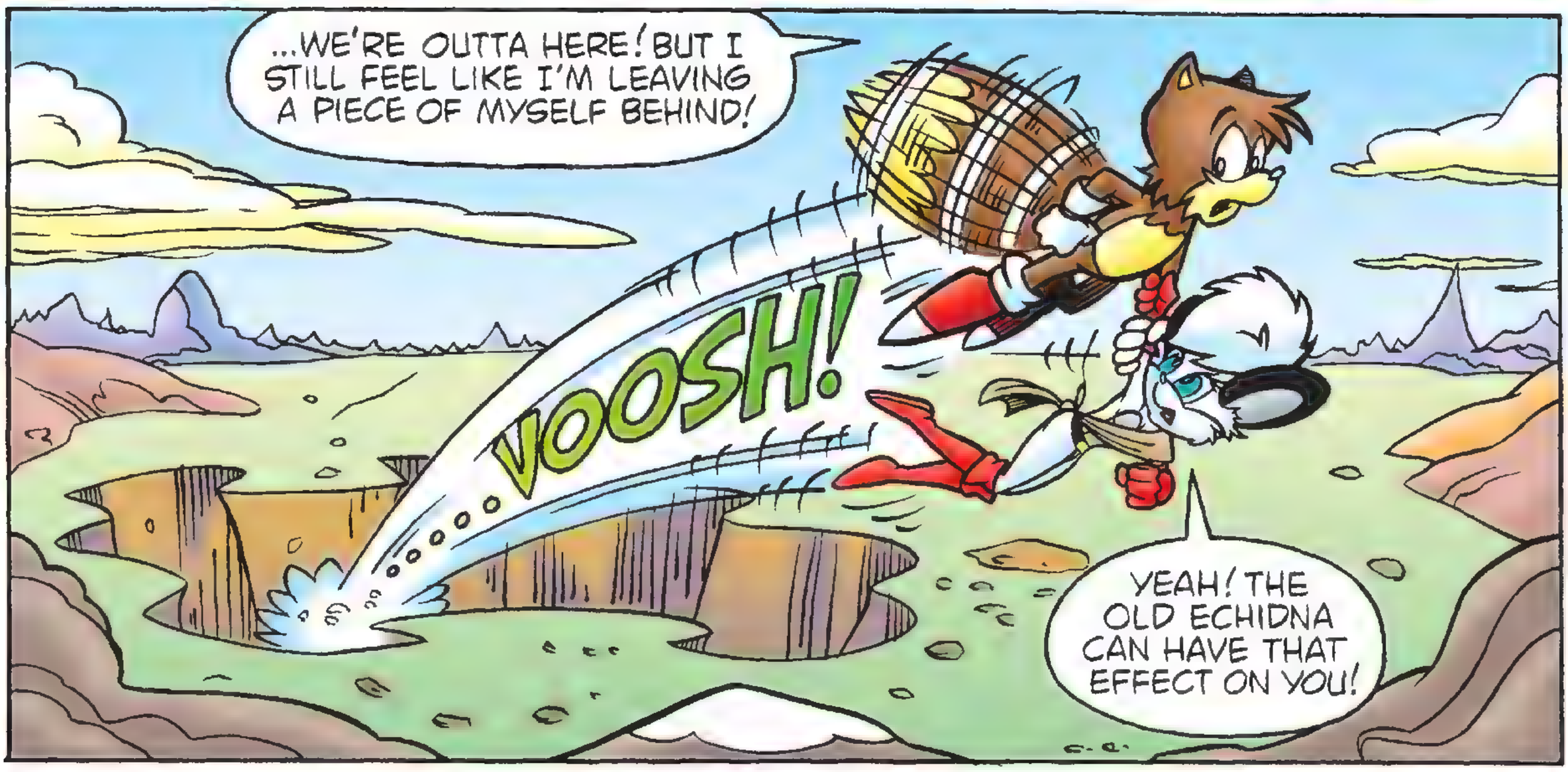

WHAT THE--?! HOLY ABALONE! MY ARM--MY TAIL--MY LEG! I... I'M ALL HEALED UP!
A GOOD THING...


" FOR YOU WILL NEED ALL OF YOUR RESOURCES IN THE NEAR FUTURE!"
EEEEEEEYOW-
YOU!
YOU!
KPLUNK!
YOU'RE THE FOX WE RESCUED FROM THE WING DINGOES--
--TAILS... AND YOU'RE THE FREE-DOM FIGHTER--
--BARBY KOALA!
RIGHT... NICE TO MEET YOU... BUT SINCE WHEN CAN KOALA BEARS FLY?
I WASN'T FLYING-- I WAS FALLING!
CROCBOT UNLEASHED A GIANT MECHA-BEAST ON US! IT BUTTED ME FROM HIS FORTRESS TO THIS CRATER!
GOSH!
BONK!
IT'S JUST WALT WALLABEE, GURU EMU AND DUCK "BILL" PLATYPUS LEFT TO FIGHT THE C.D. ROM RAM! WILL YOU HELP US OUT?
SURE! LET ME JUST SAY GOODBYE TO MY HOST...

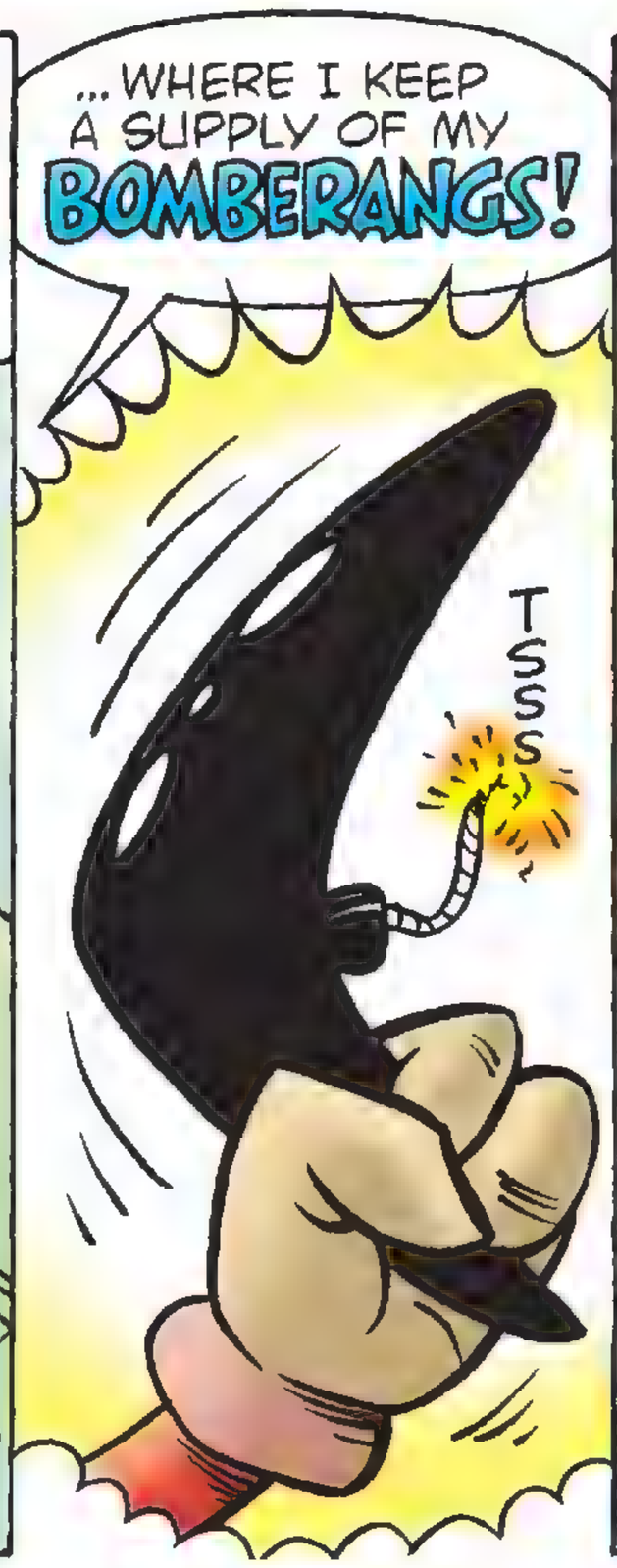

WHAT HOST?
HE'S RIGHT OVER-- HUH? HE'S GONE! ATHAIR VANISHED INTO THIN AIR!

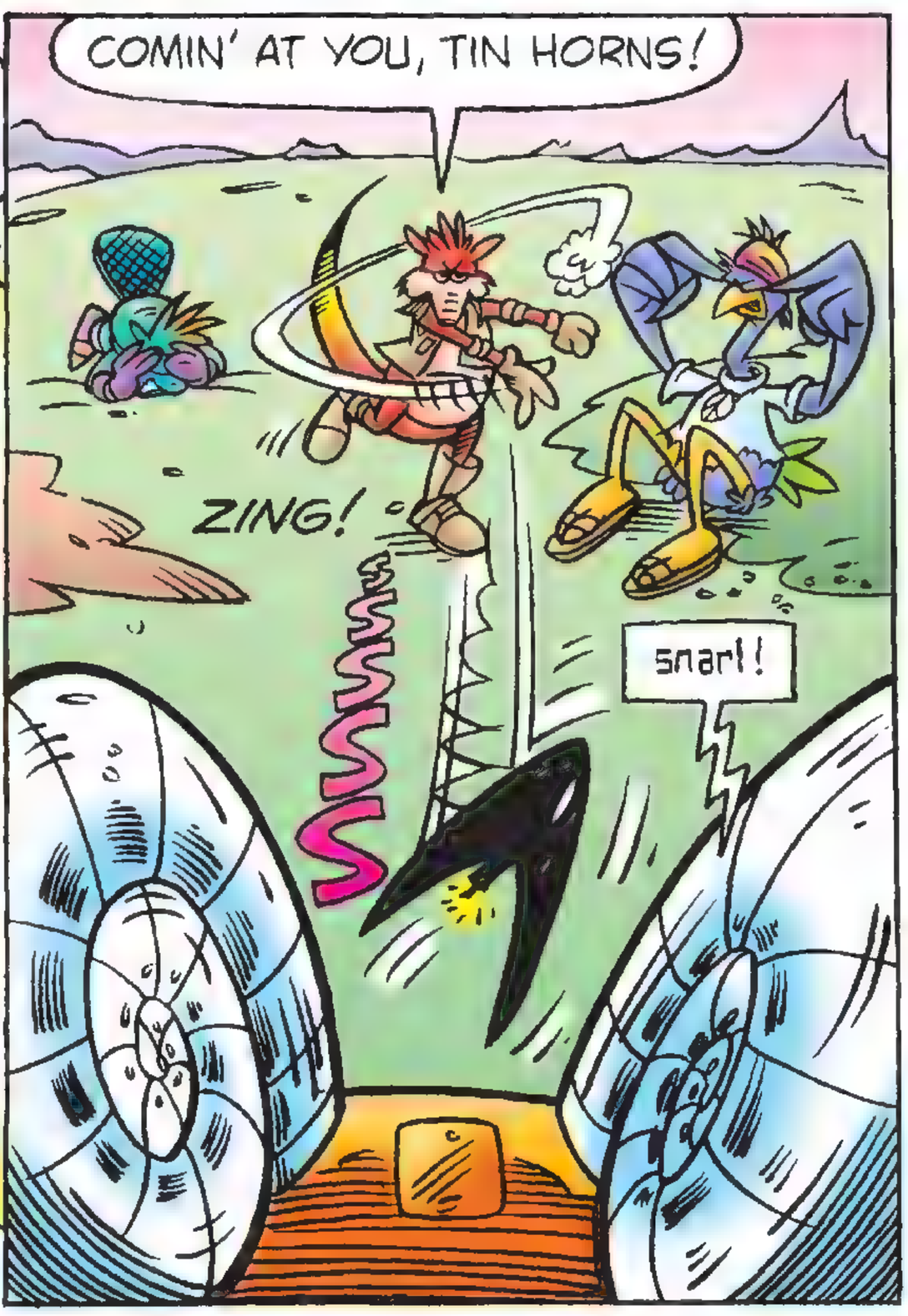

HE WAS JUST HERE! SO WERE THE STATUES OF... Eulp: AM I GOING NUTS?
NO-- YOU'RE GOING TO HELP US BATTLE CROCBOT!

THAT EVIL ROBO-REPTILE'S ALREADY GOT WOMBAT STU! UNLESS WE HURRY, HE'LL CAPTURE THE OTHERS!
OKAY, BARBY...

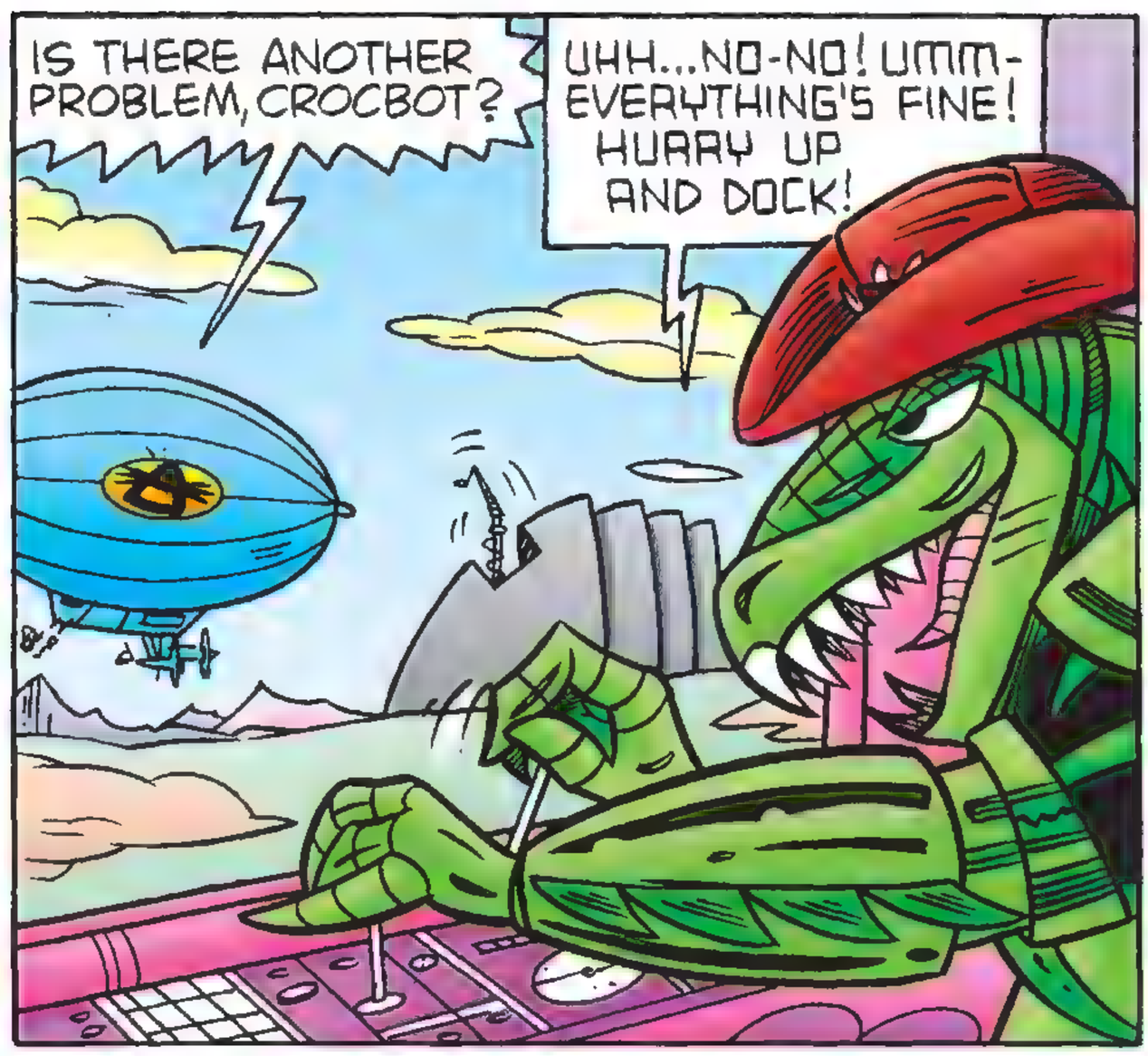

...WE'RE OUTTA HERE! BUT I STILL FEEL LIKE I'M LEAVING A PIECE OF MYSELF BEHIND!
VOOSH!
YEAH! THE OLD ECHIDNA CAN HAVE THAT EFFECT ON YOU!

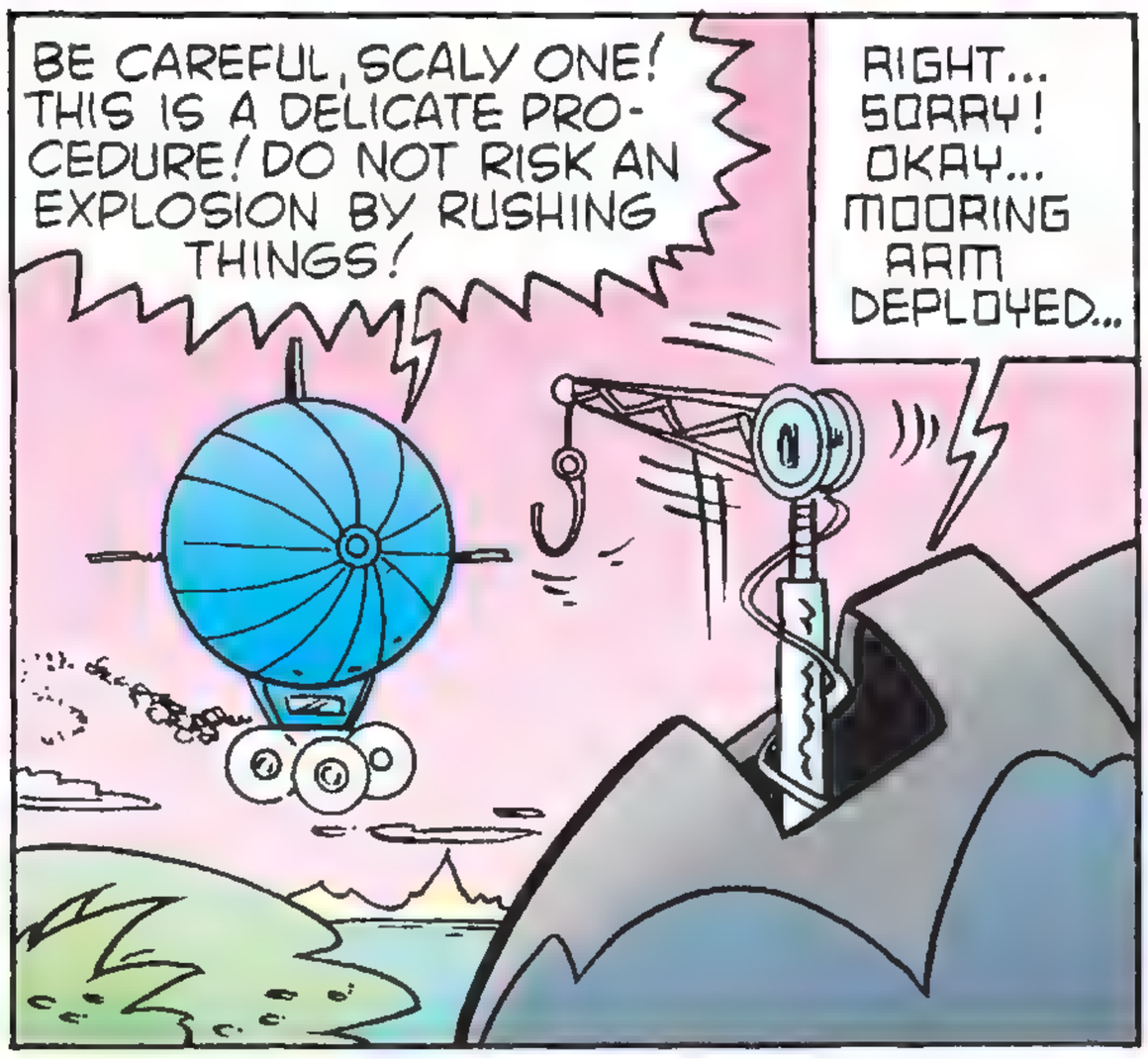
A SHORT DISTANCE AWAY:
ROBO-BLIMP CALLING CROCBOT--ARE YOU READY THIS TIME?
AFFIRMATIVE! THE PREVIOUS...err... PROBLEM HAS BEEN TAKEN CARE OF!
AWK! I'M SUPPOSED TO BE A *FLIGHTLESS* BIRD!
WHOOM!!!
OKAY... I'M THROUGH PLAYING AROUND!
OHH... MY ACHIN' BACK!

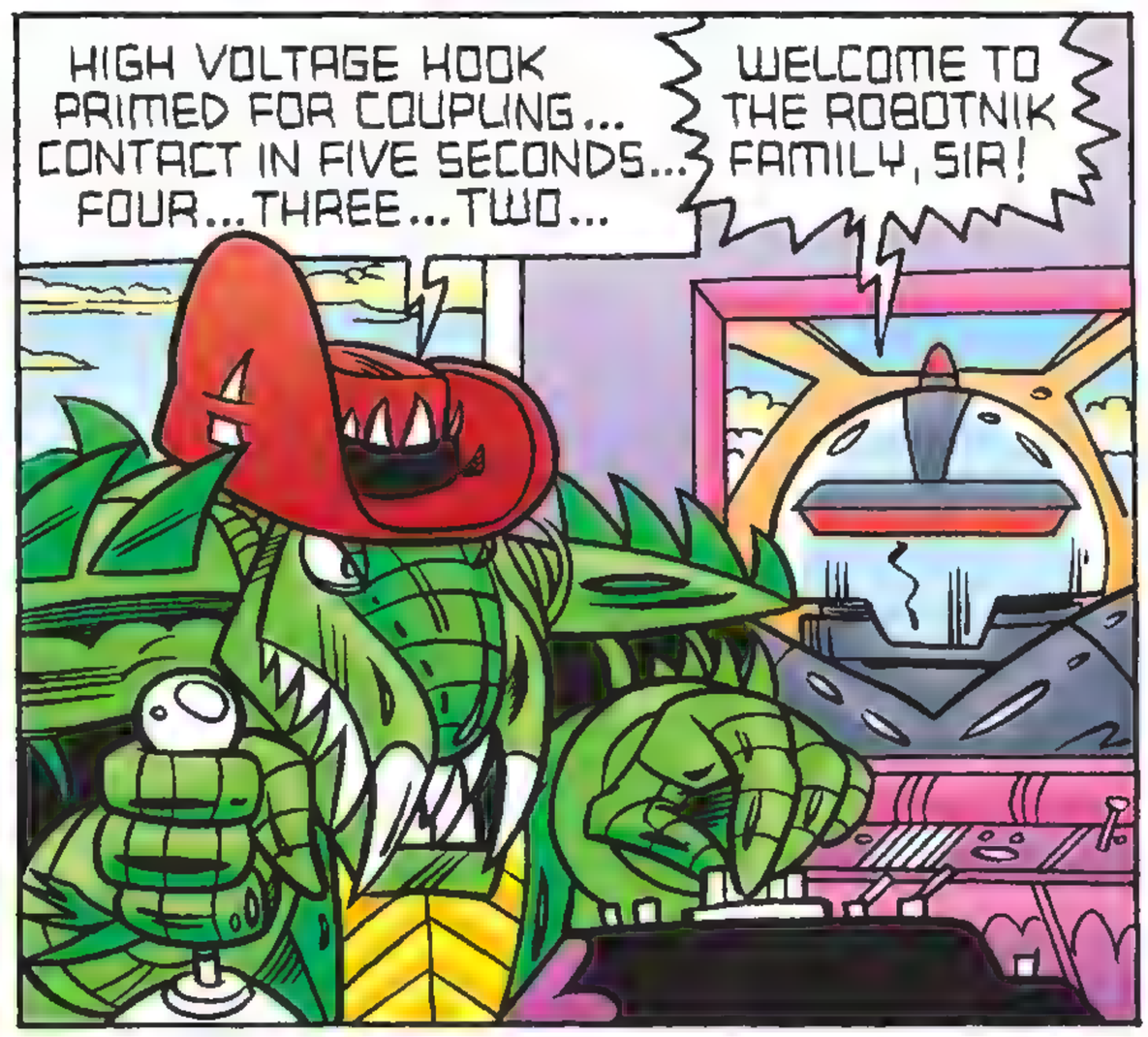


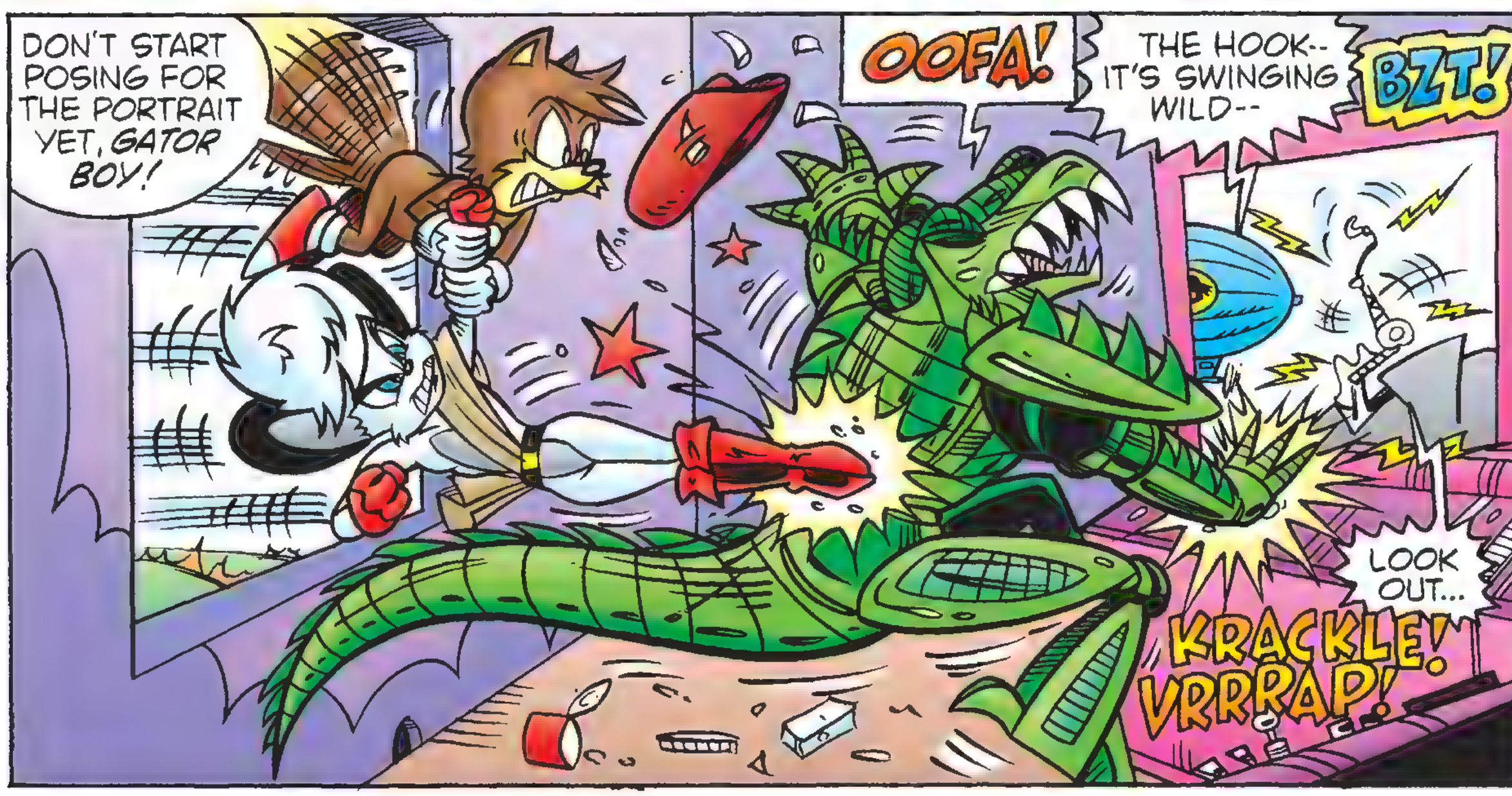


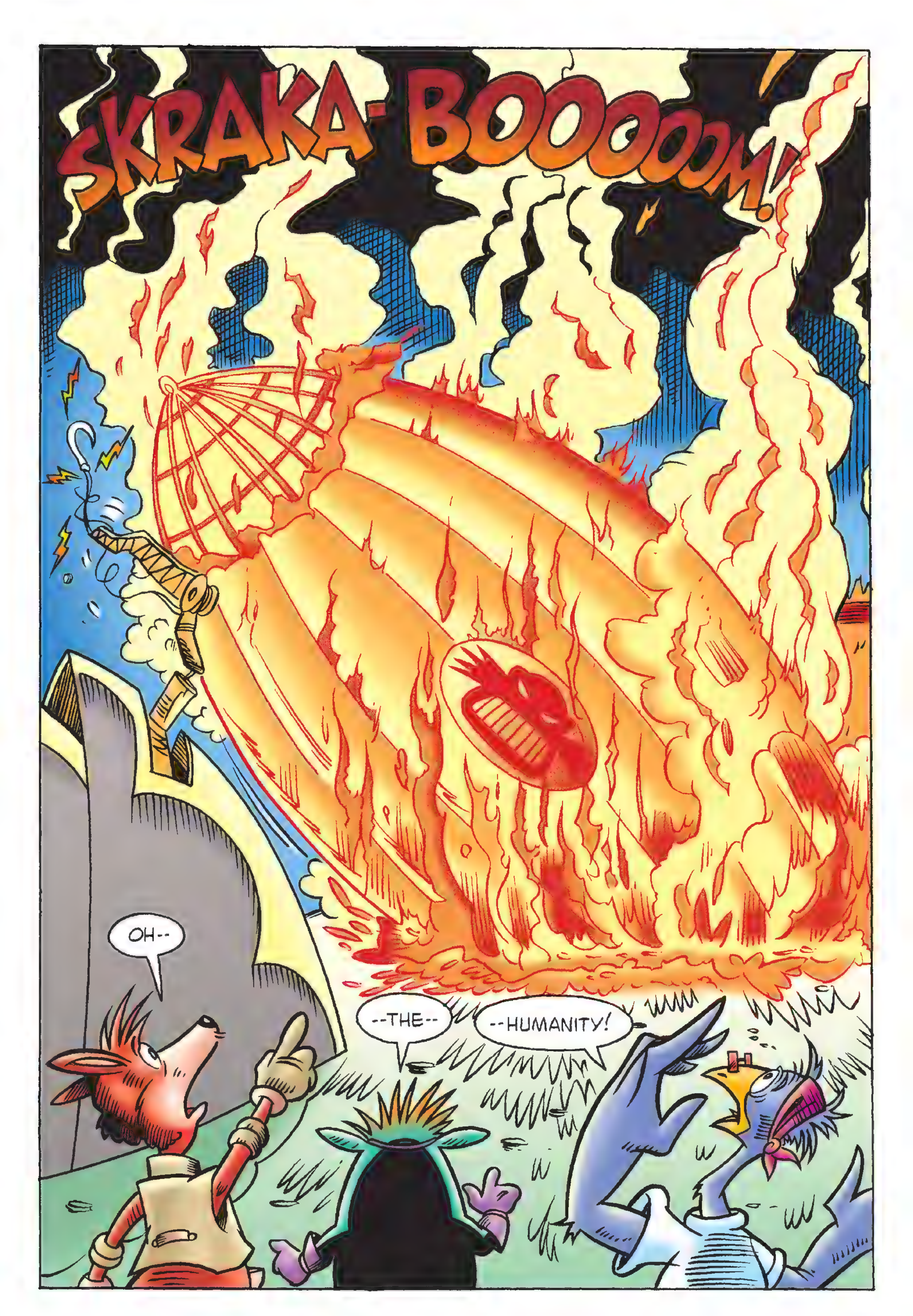
CHUKA-DOOM!
NO!


IS THERE ANOTHER PROBLEM, CROCBOT?
UHH...NO-NO! UMM- EVERYTHING'S FINE! HURRY UP AND DOCK!


BE CAREFUL, SCALY ONE! THIS IS A DELICATE PRO-CEDURE! DO NOT RISK AN EXPLOSION BY RUSHING THINGS!
RIGHT... SORRY! OKAY... MOORING ARM DEPLOYED...


HIGH VOLTAGE HOOK PRIMED FOR COUPLING... CONTACT IN FIVE SECONDS... FOUR...THREE...TWO...
WELCOME TO THE ROBOTNIK FAMILY, SIR!


DON'T START POSING FOR THE PORTRAIT YET, GATOR BOY!
OOFA!
THE HOOK-- IT'S SWINGING WILD--
BZT!
LOOK OUT...
KRACKLE! VRRRAP!


SKRAKA-BOOOOM!
OH--
--THE--
--HUMANITY!

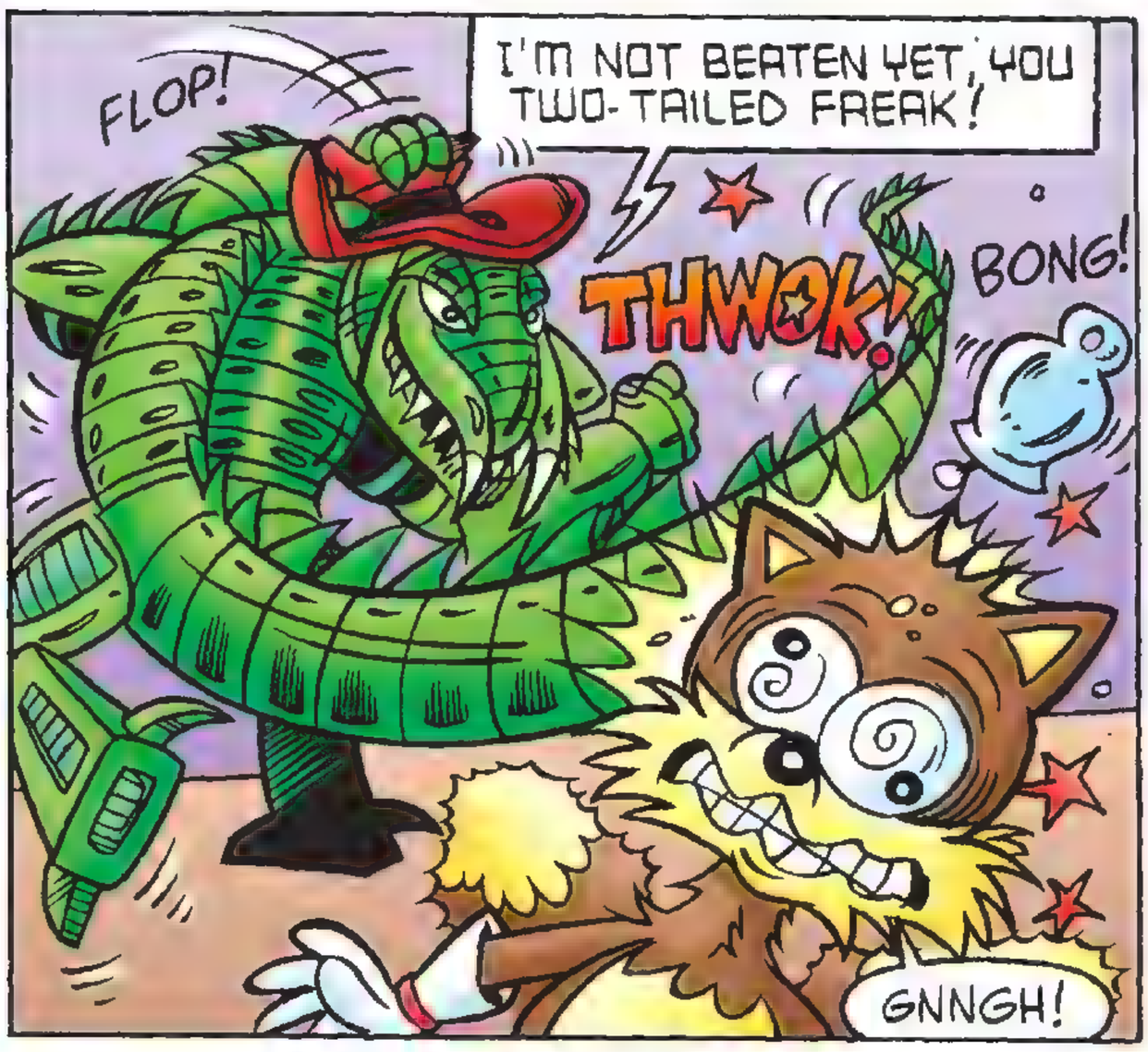
NO! IT CAN'T BE! MY ROBO-SUPPLIES-- MY FUTURE ARMY OF SWATBOTS--SAY IT AIN'T SO, ROBO!:snurf:

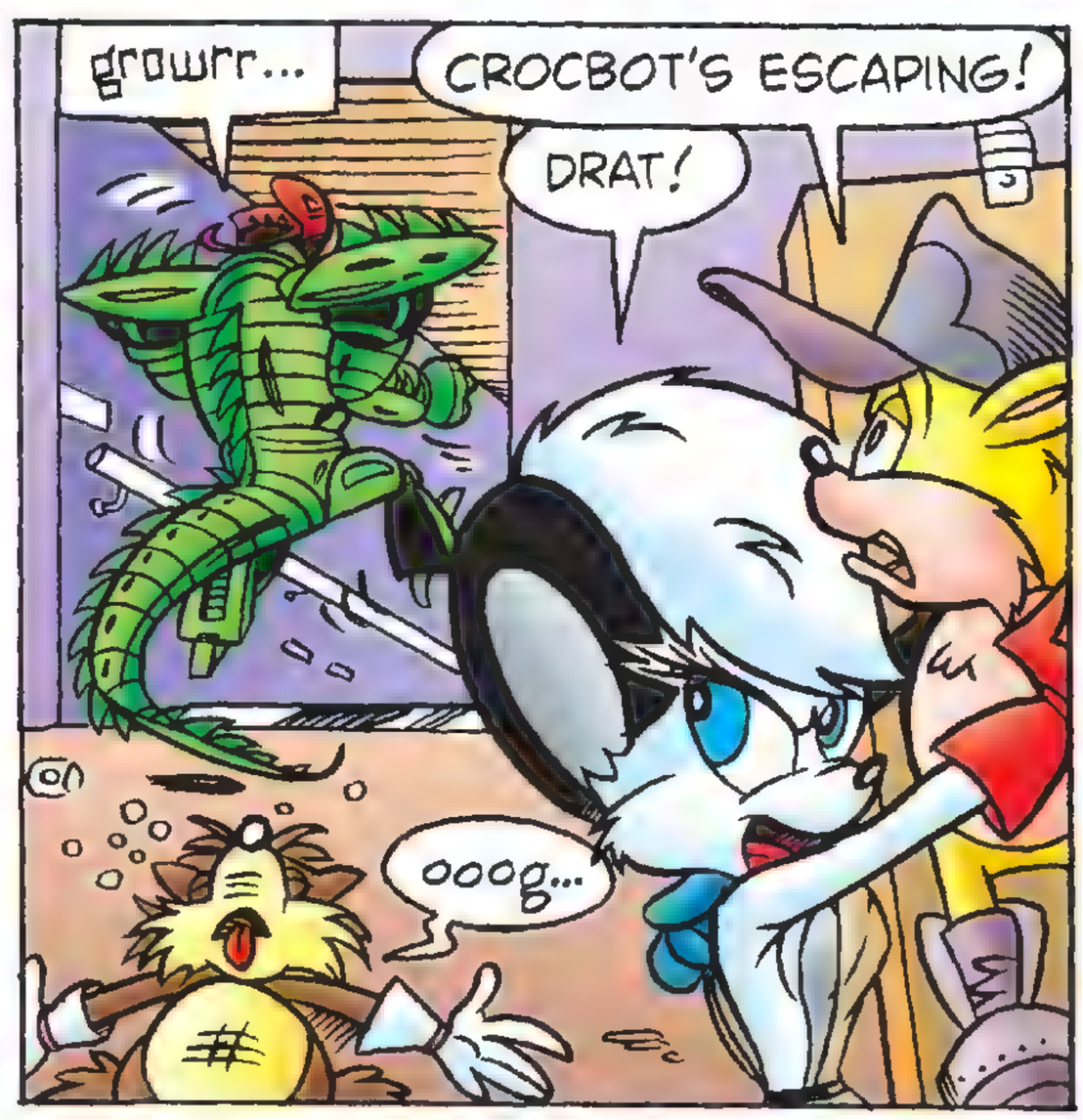
HSSSSSSST...

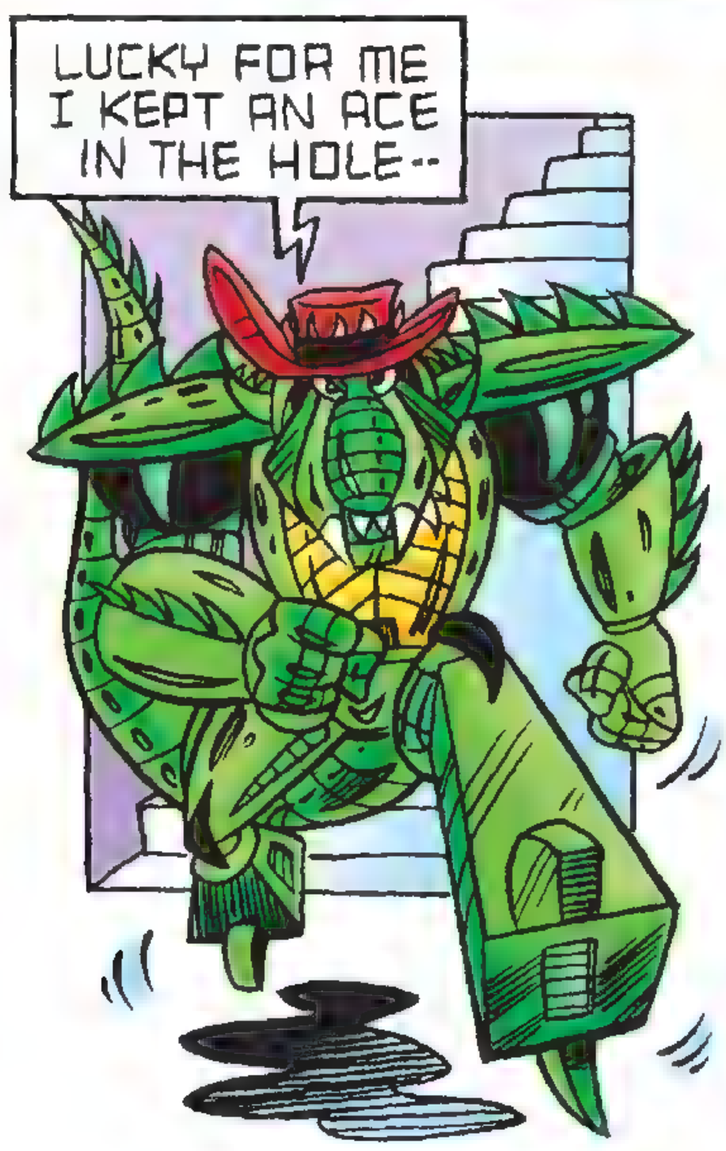
SAVE YOUR CROCODILE TEARS... IT'S OVER!

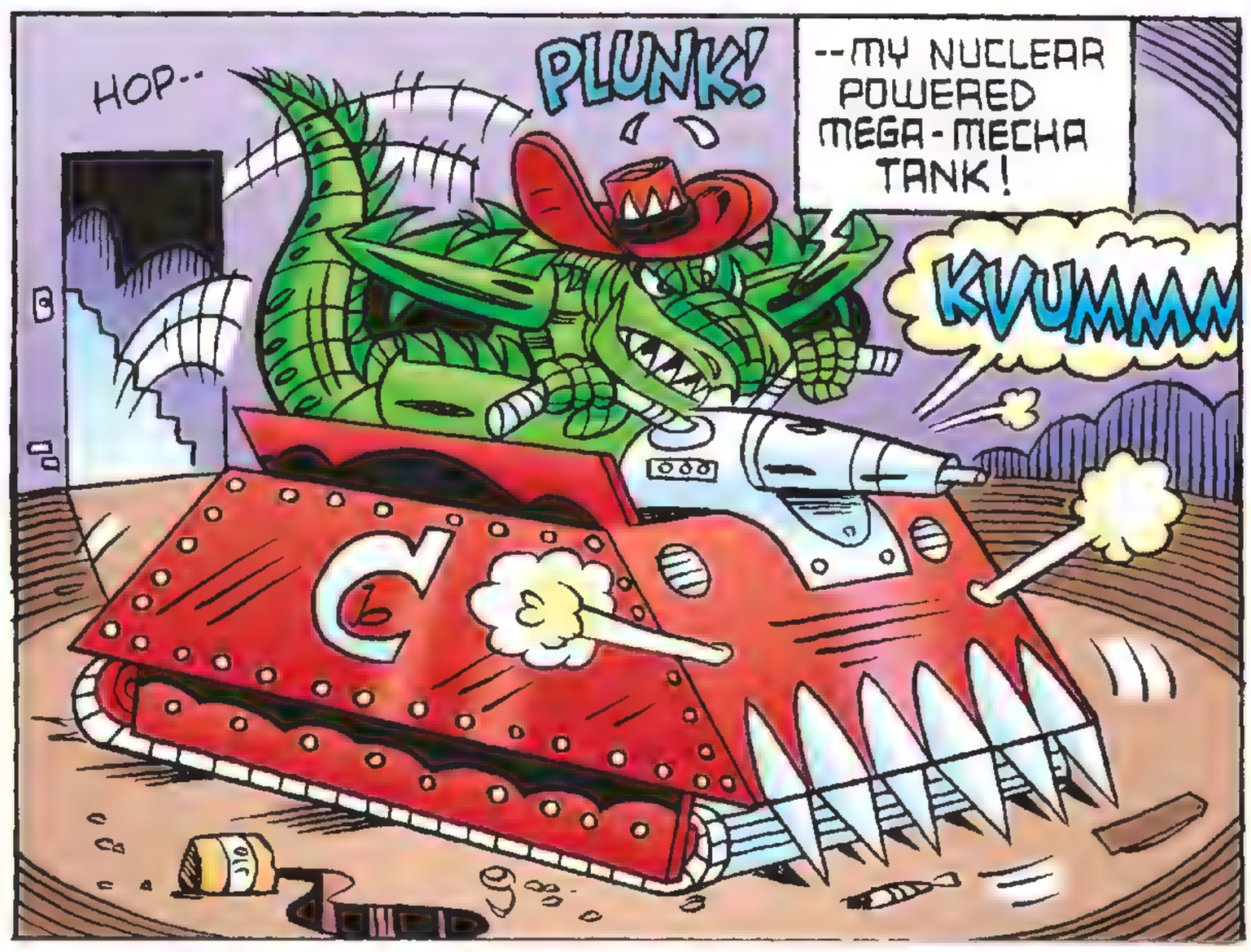
WOMBAT STU... ARE YOU OKAY?

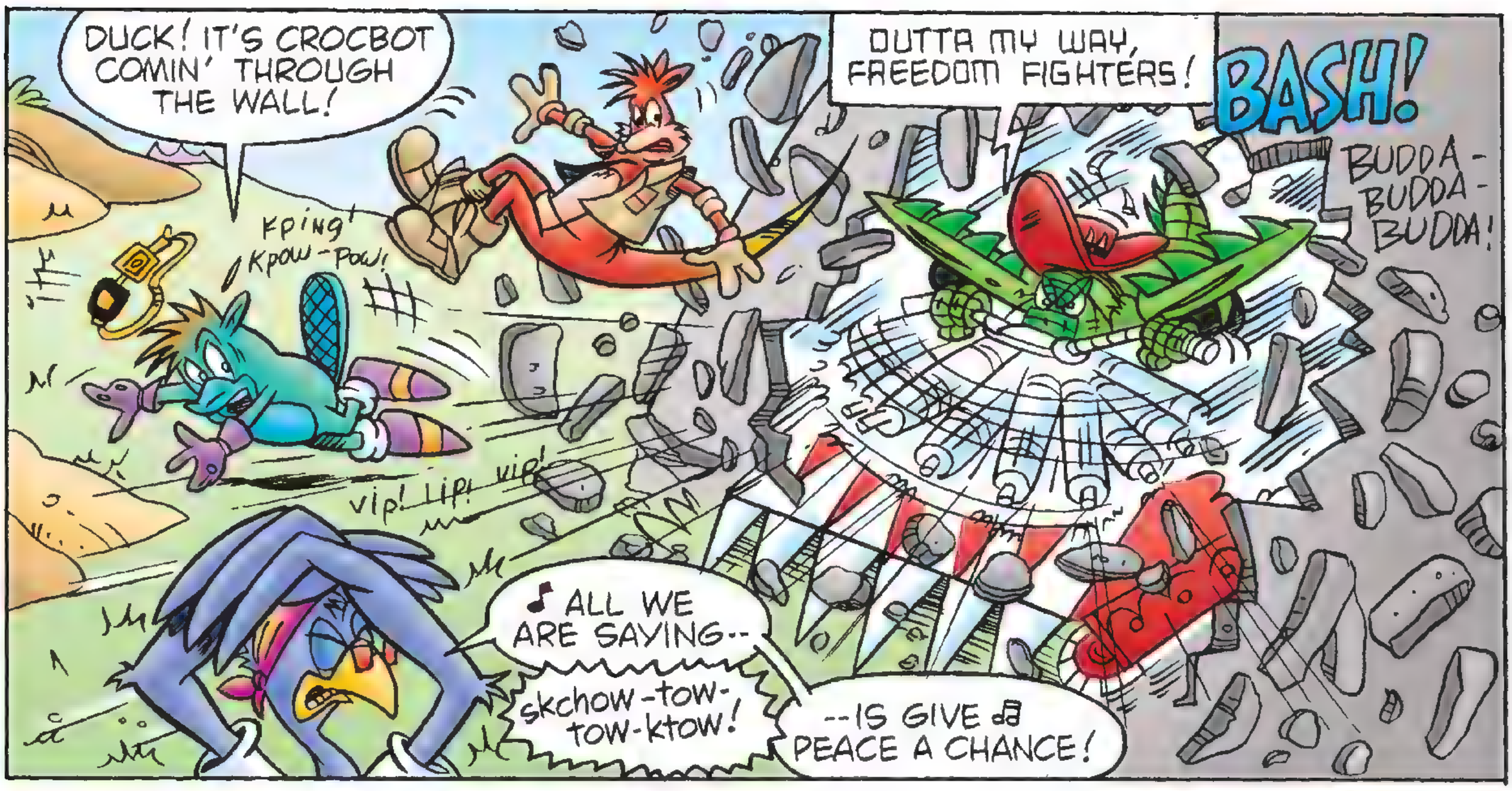
B-BUH-BARBY?

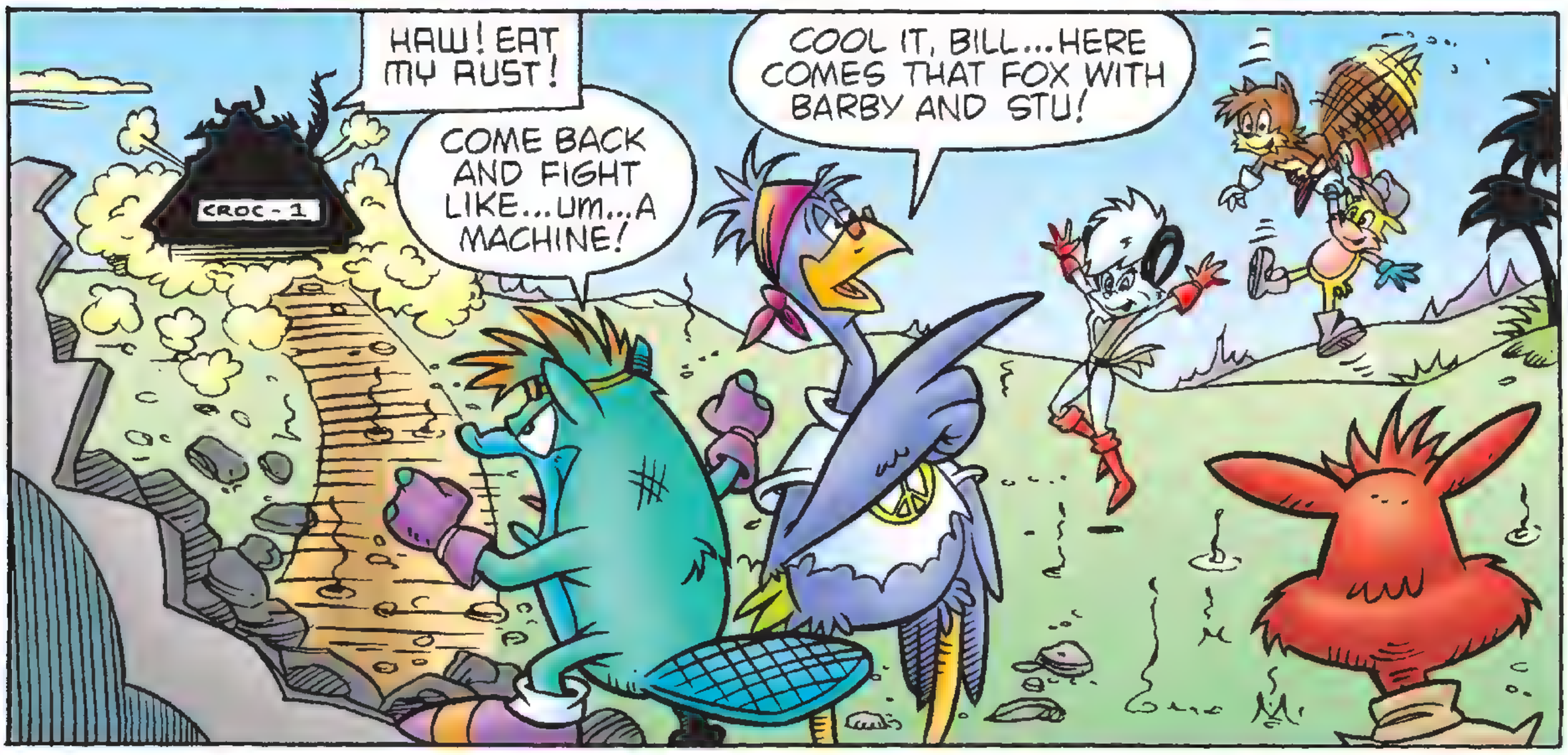


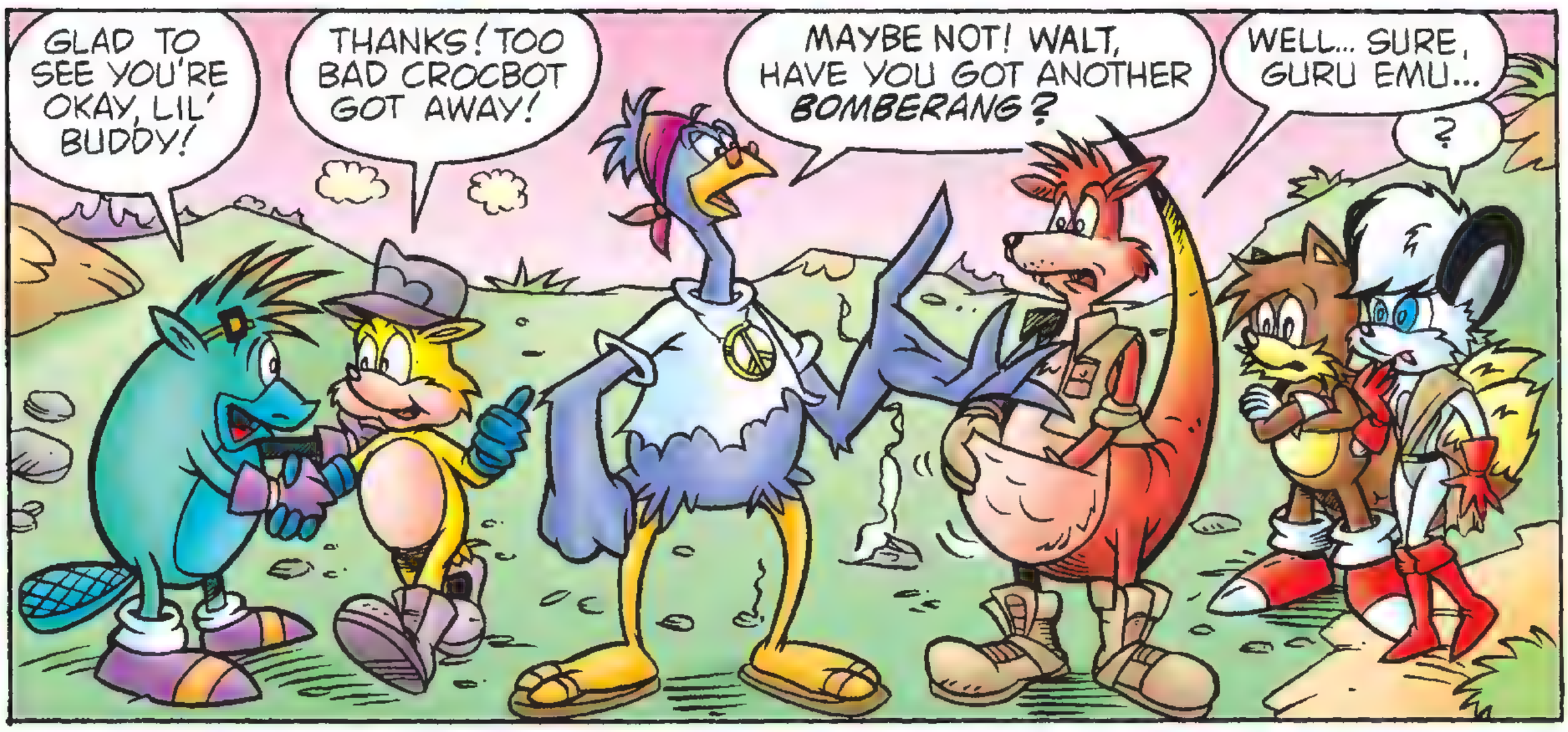


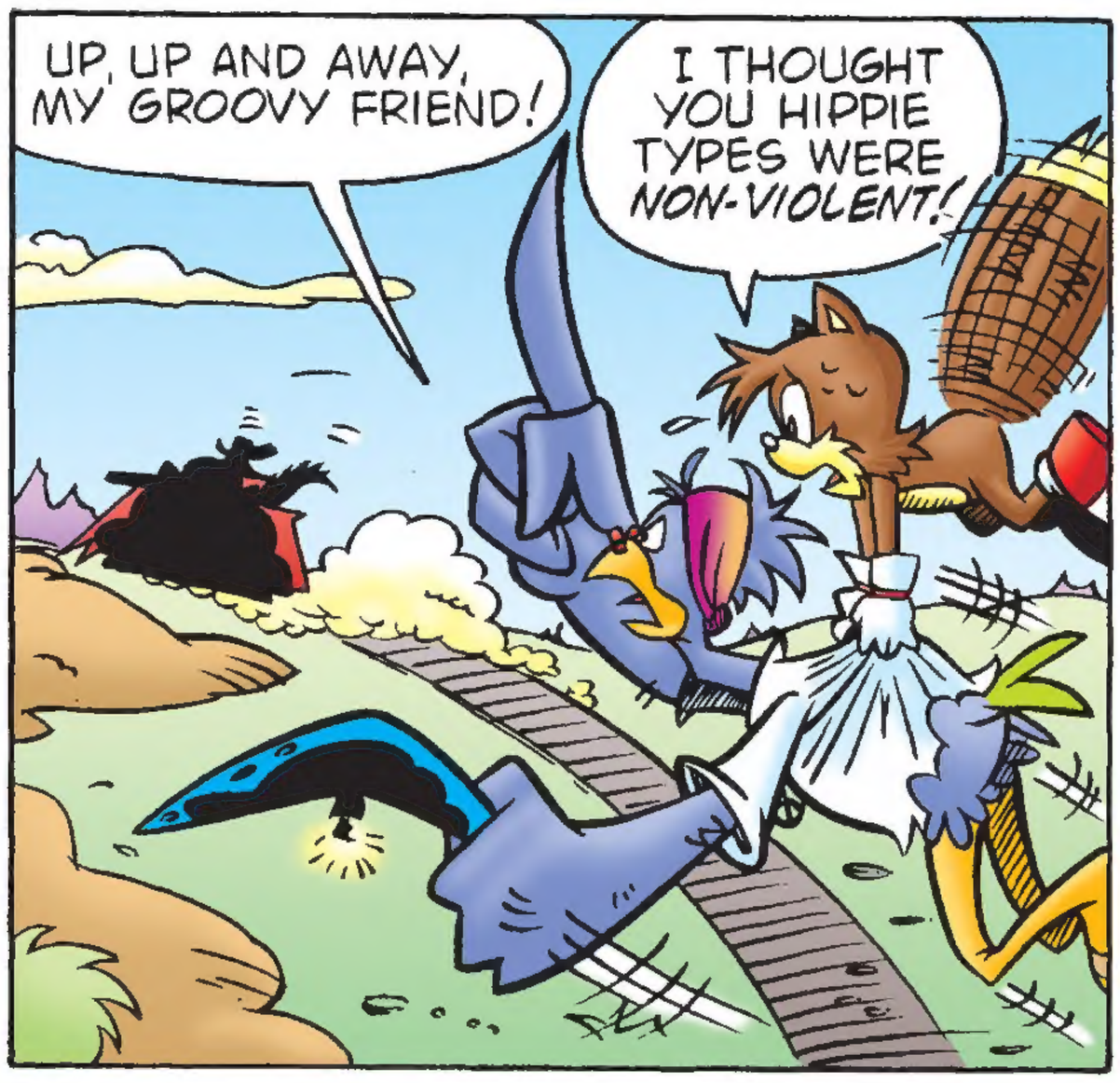


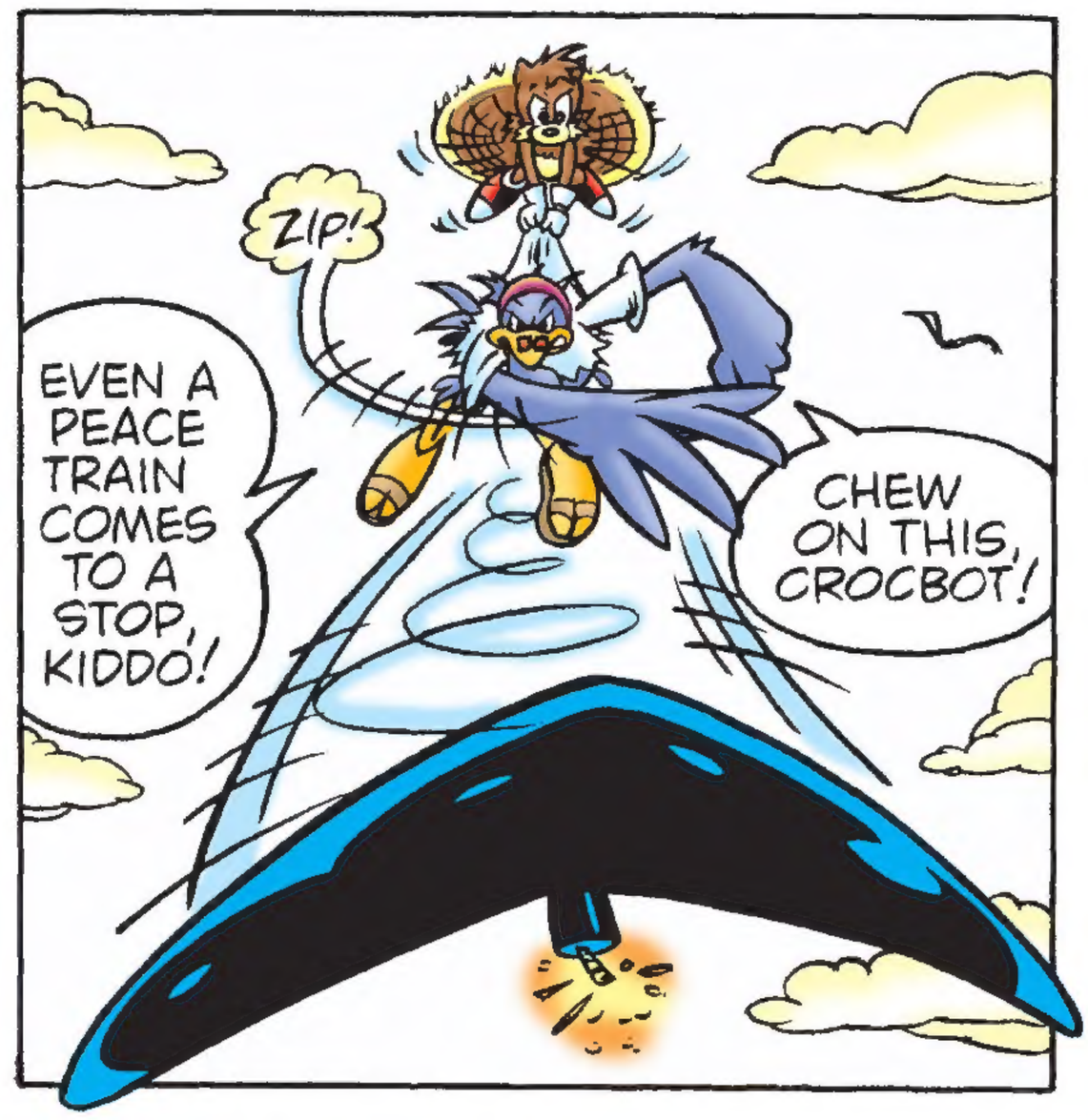


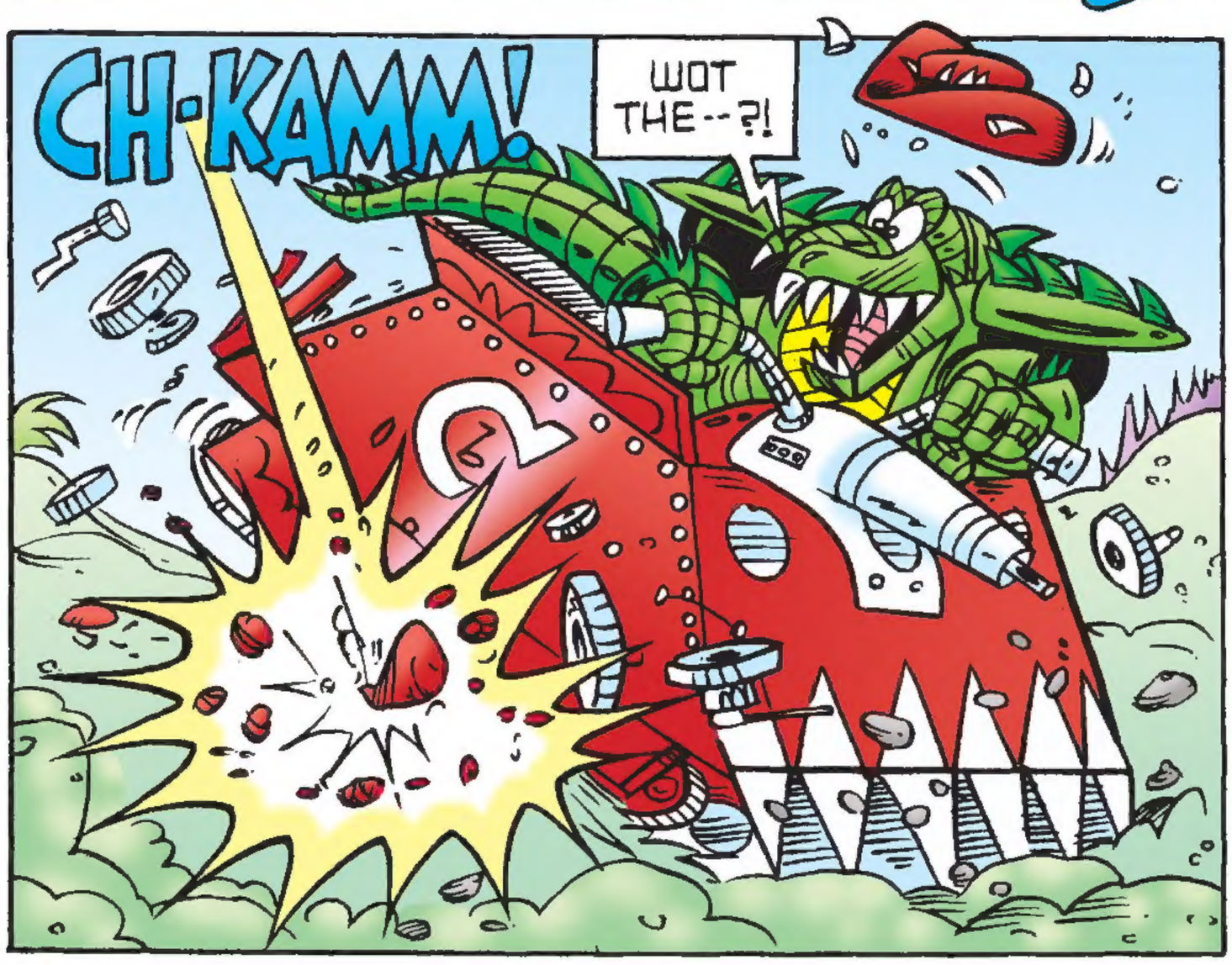

DUCK! IT'S CROCBOT COMIN' THROUGH THE WALL!
OUTTA MY WAY, FREEDOM FIGHTERS!
BASH!
BUDDA-BUDDA-BUDDA!
Kping! Kpow-Pow!
vip! Lip! vip!
♪ ALL WE ARE SAYING--
skchow-tow-tow-ktow!
--IS GIVE ♫ PEACE A CHANCE!

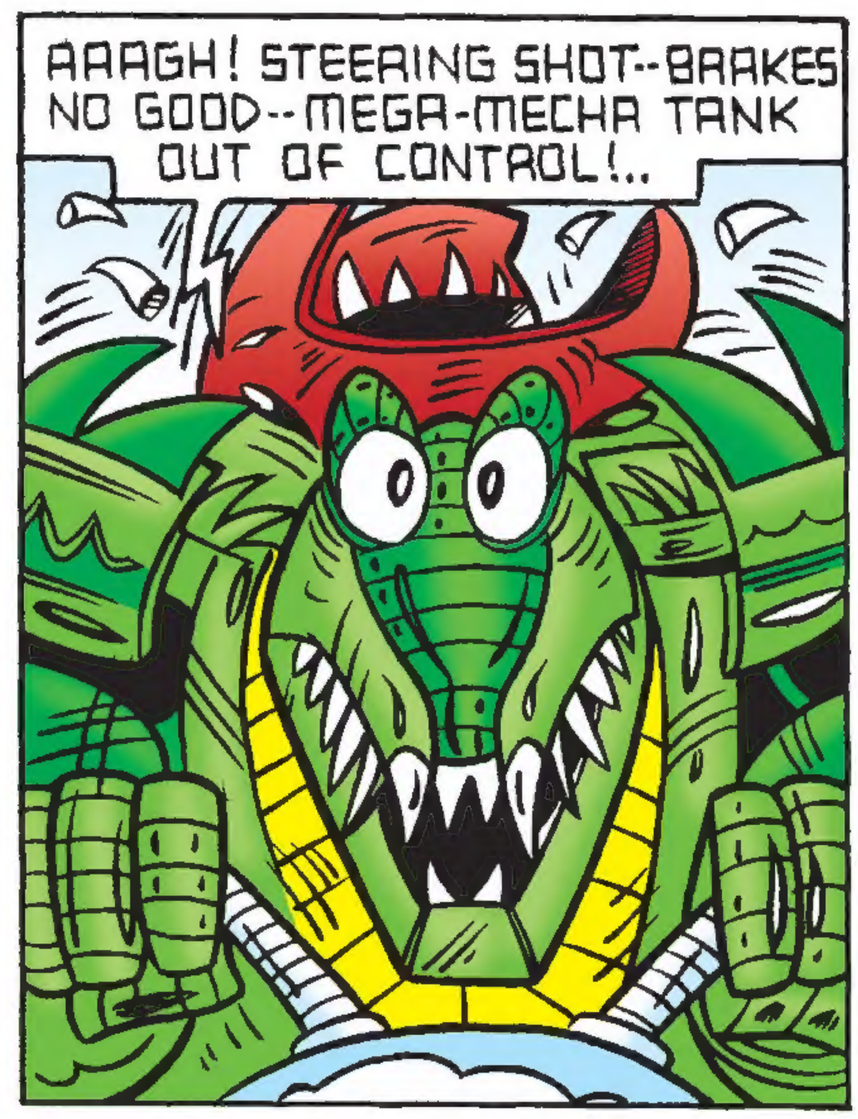

HAW! EAT MY RUST!
COME BACK AND FIGHT LIKE...um...A MACHINE!
COOL IT, BILL...HERE COMES THAT FOX WITH BARBY AND STU!
CROC-1

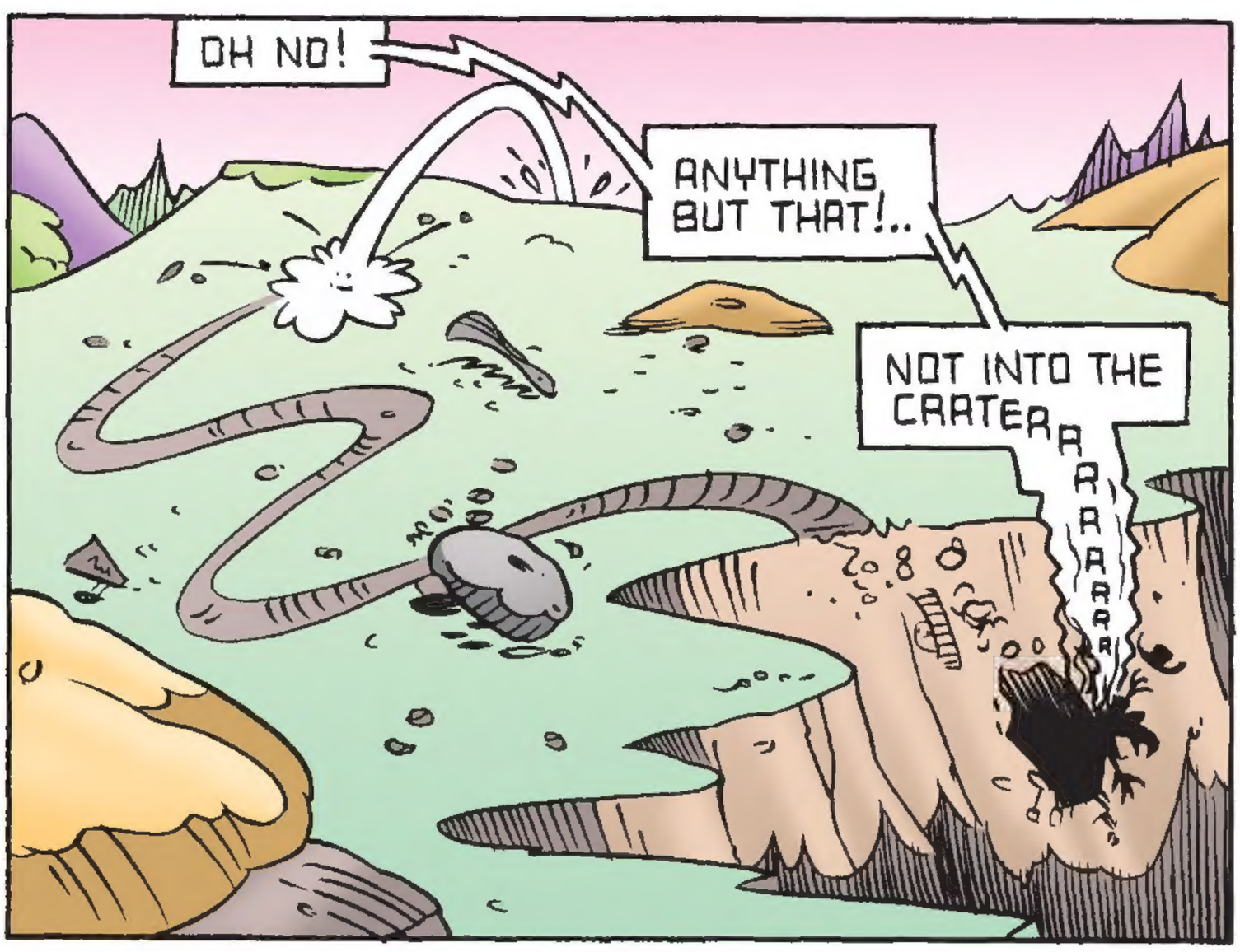

GLAD TO SEE YOU'RE OKAY, LIL' BUDDY!
THANKS! TOO BAD CROCBOT GOT AWAY!
MAYBE NOT! WALT, HAVE YOU GOT ANOTHER BOMBERANG?
WELL... SURE, GURU EMU...
?

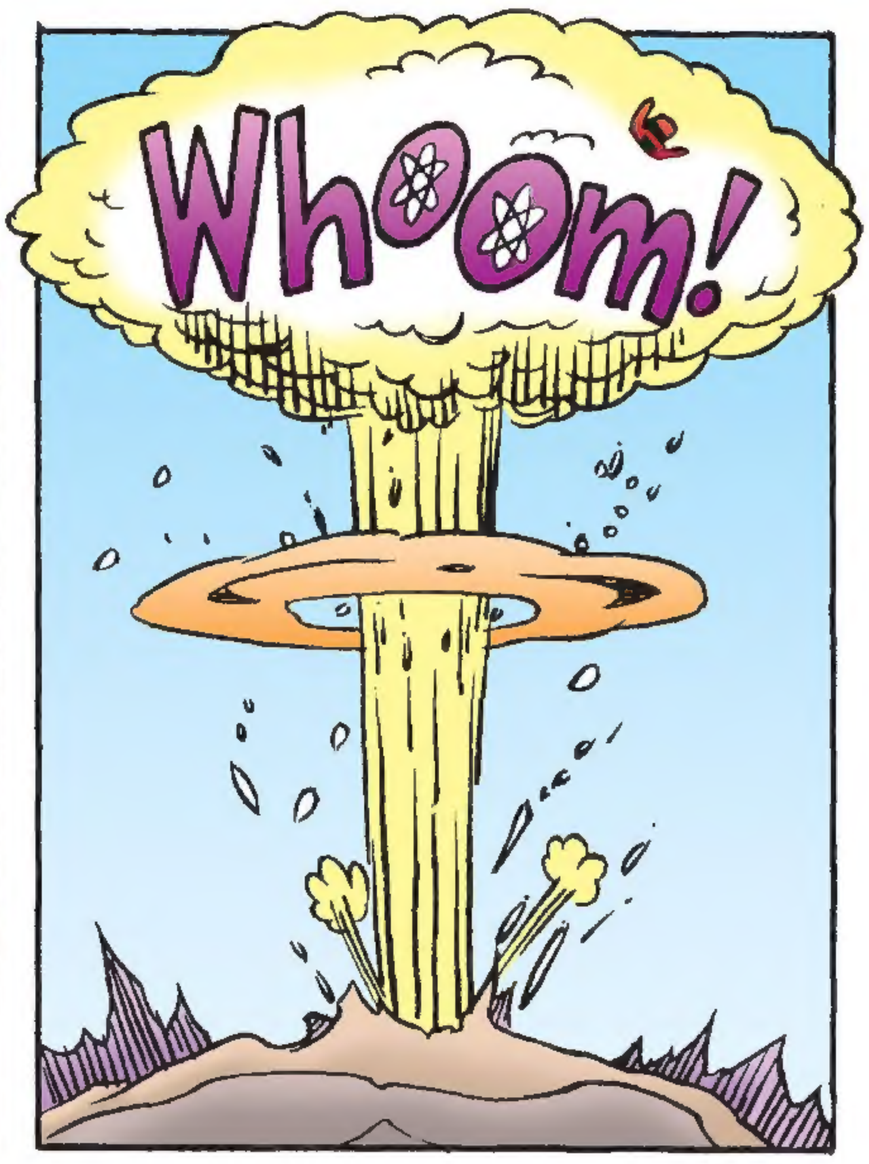

UP, UP AND AWAY, MY GROOVY FRIEND!
I THOUGHT YOU HIPPIE TYPES WERE NON-VIOLENT!

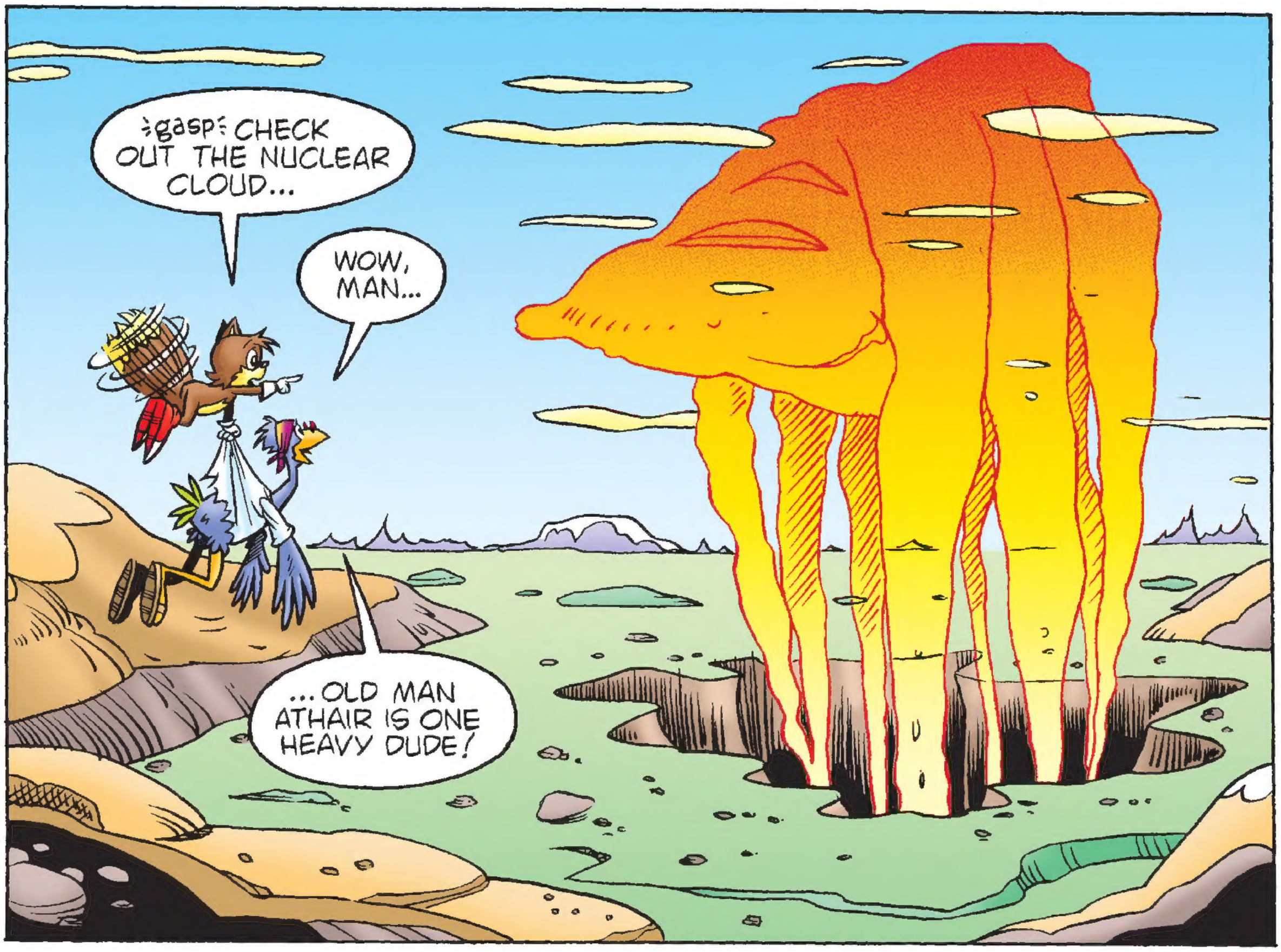

ZIP!
EVEN A PEACE TRAIN COMES TO A STOP, KIDDO!
CHEW ON THIS, CROCBOT!


CH-KAMM!
WOT THE--?!

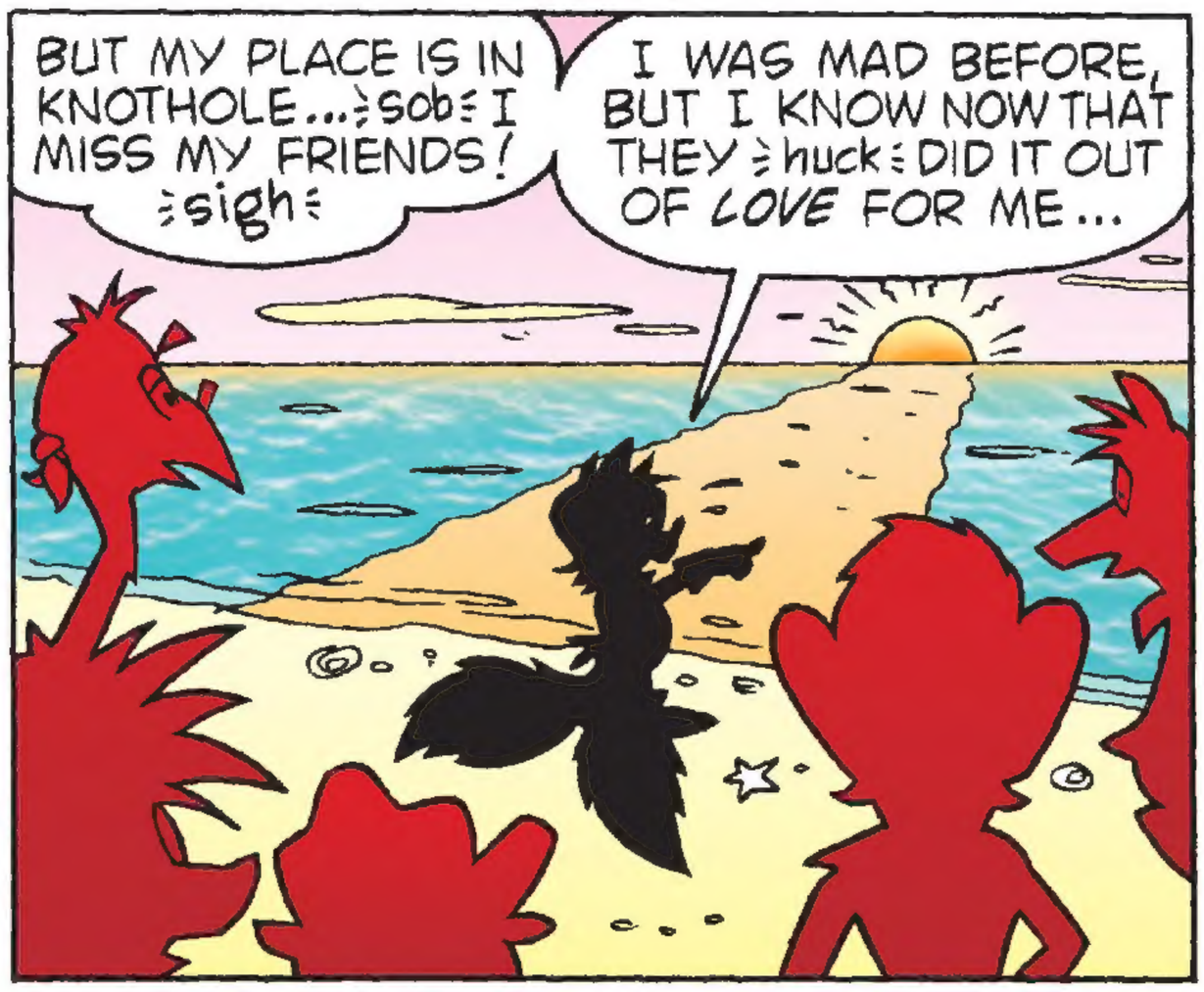

AAAGH! STEERING SHOT--BRAKES NO GOOD--MEGA-MECHA TANK OUT OF CONTROL!..


OH NO!
ANYTHING BUT THAT!..
NOT INTO THE CRATERRRRRRR

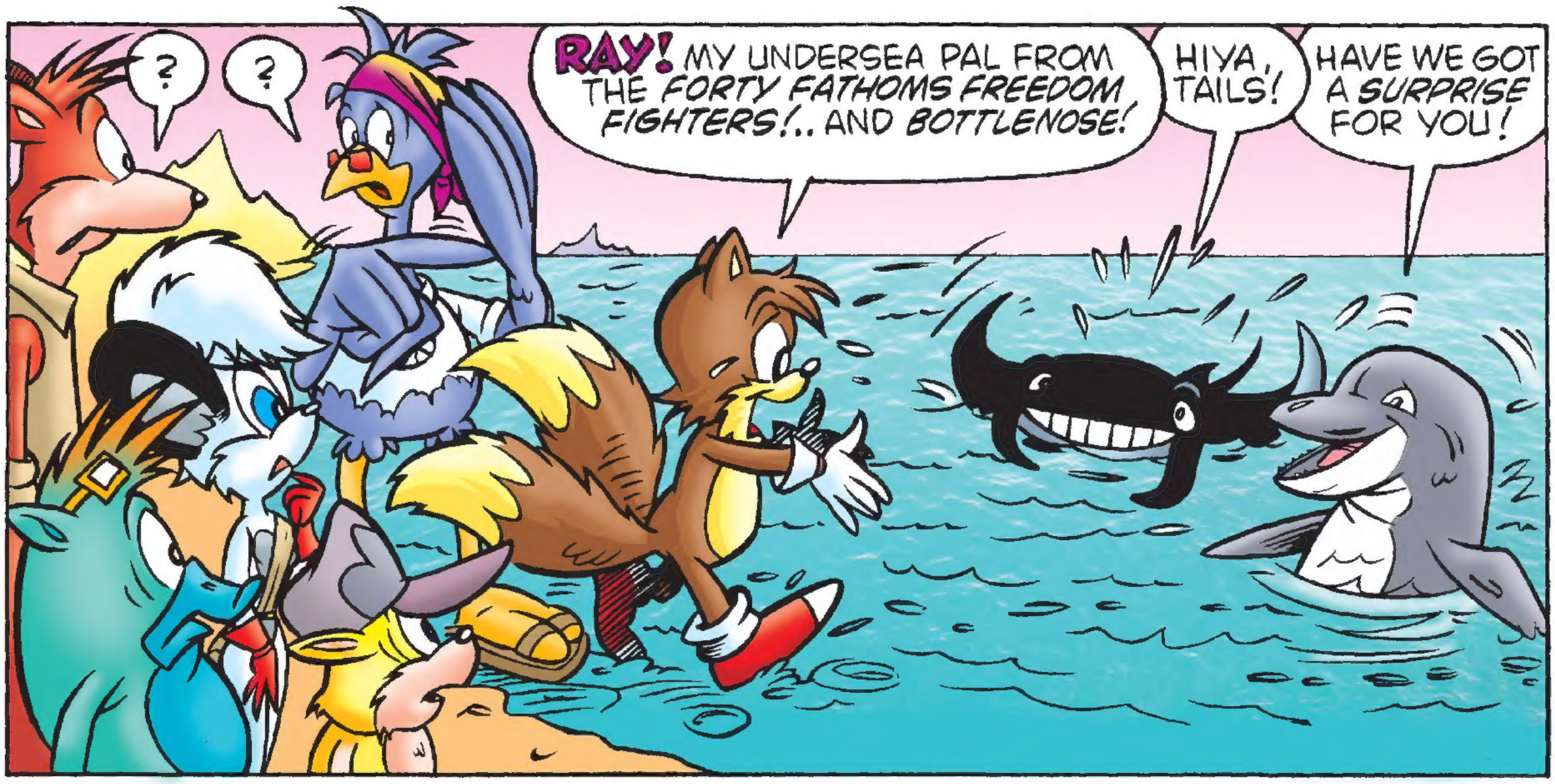

Whoom!

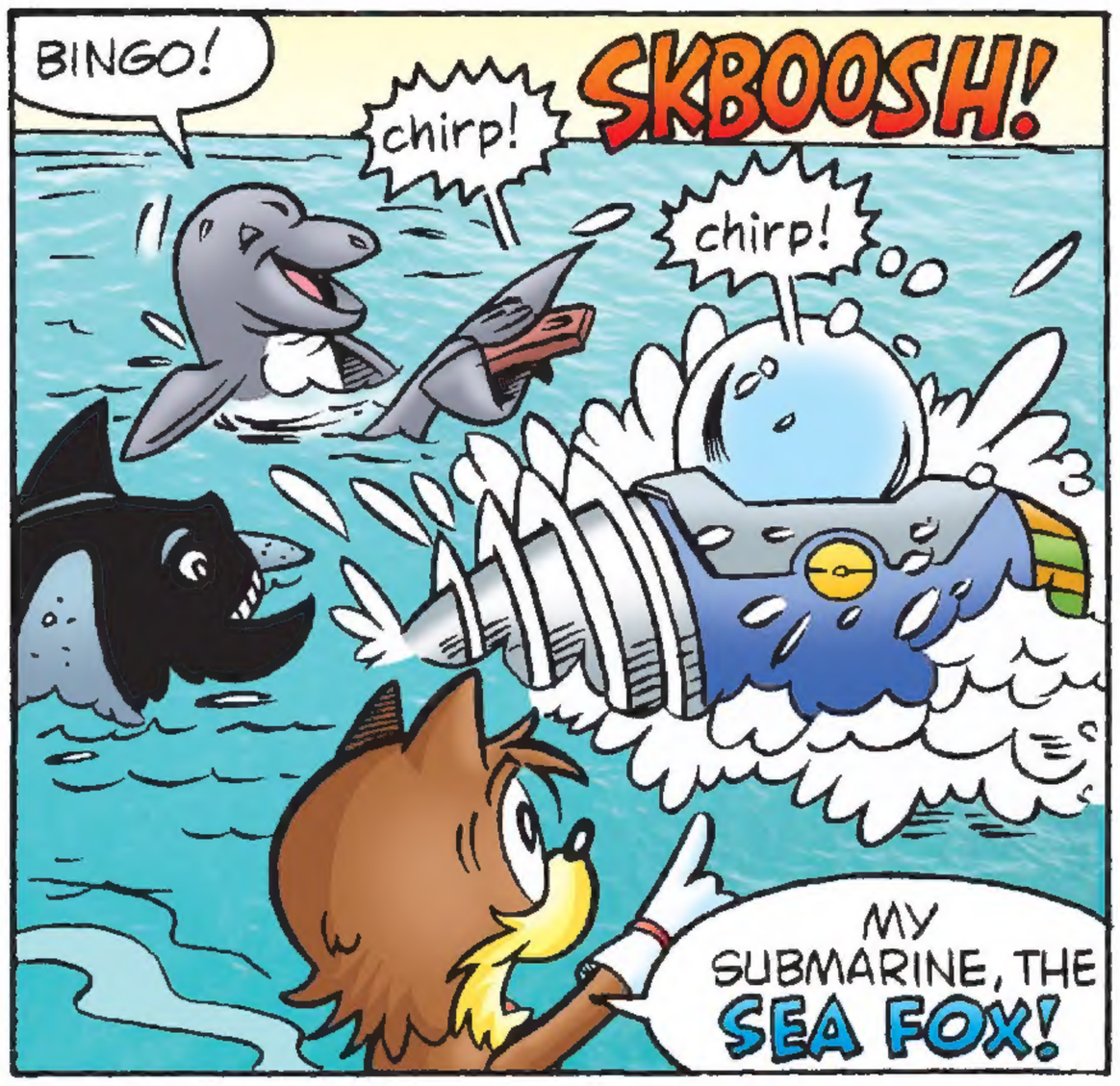

:gasp: CHECK OUT THE NUCLEAR CLOUD...
WOW, MAN...
...OLD MAN ATHAIR IS ONE HEAVY DUDE!

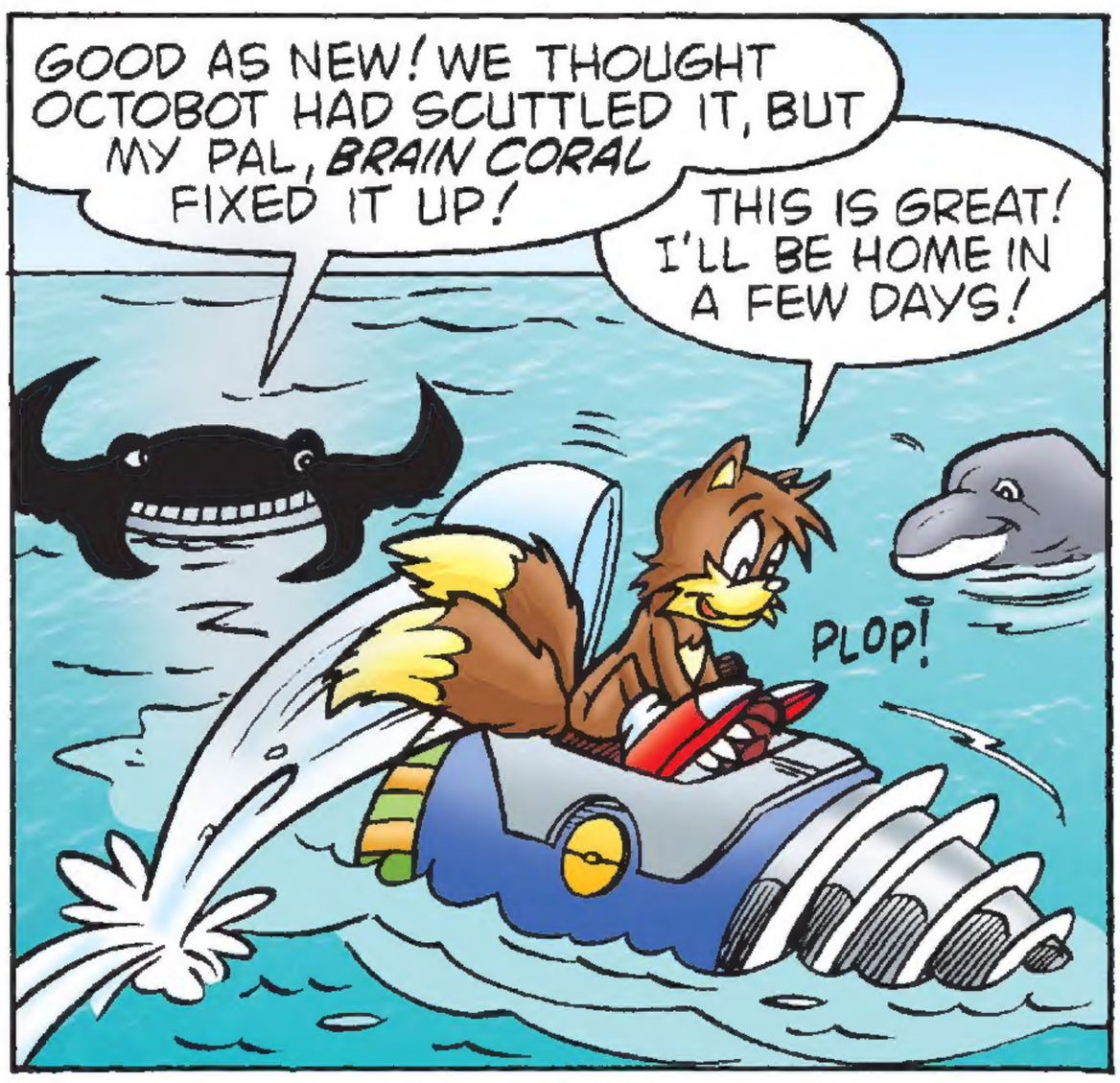
SOME TIME LATER, BACK AT THE BEACH...
ARE YOU SURE YOU WON'T RECONSIDER, MATE? WE'D BE PROUD TO HAVE YOU JOIN THE *DOWNUNDA FREEDOM FIGHTERS!*
YOU'D LEARN TO LOVE IT HERE, TAILS!
I...I REALLY APPRECIATE THE OFFER...:choke:

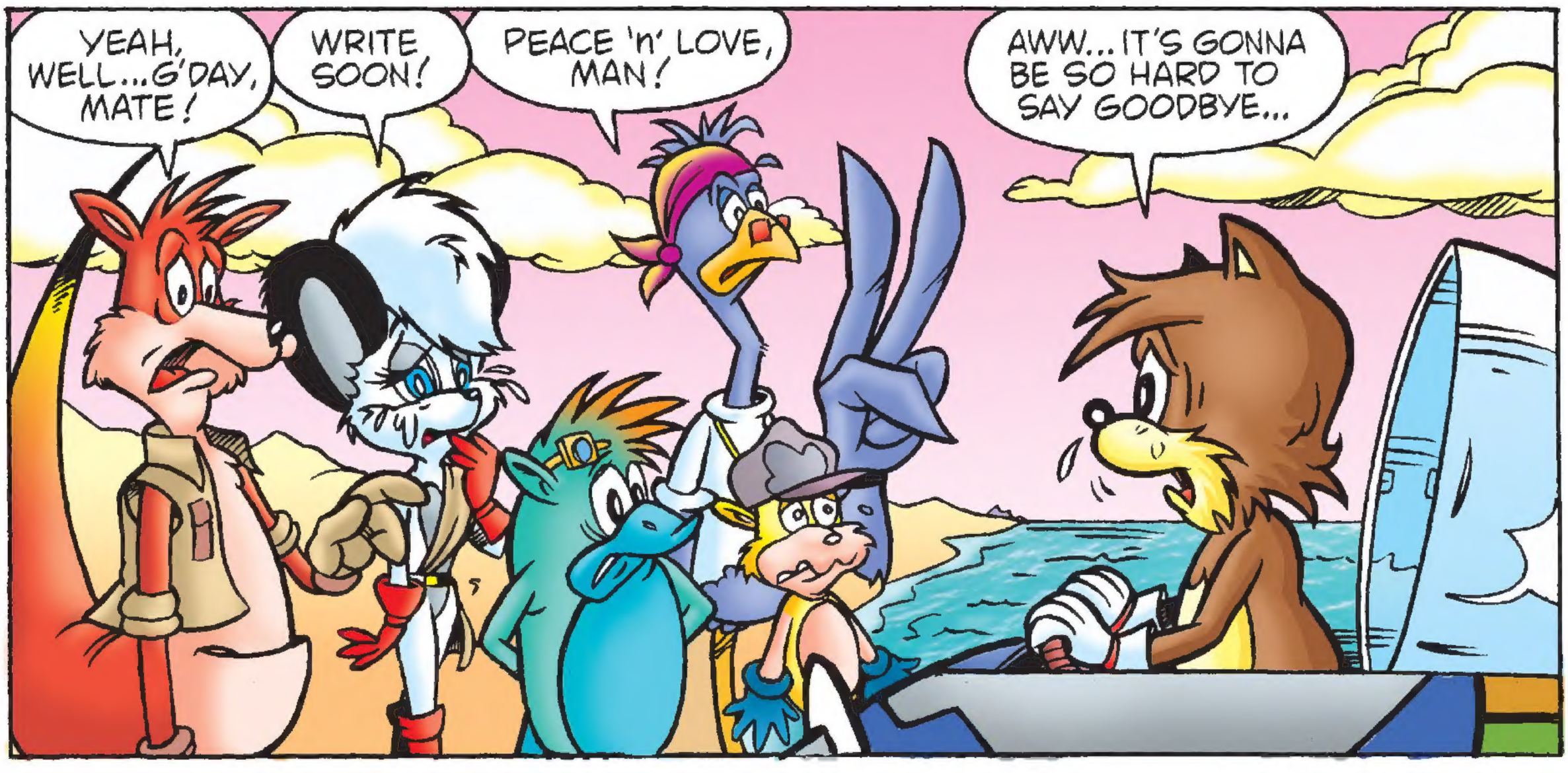

BUT MY PLACE IS IN KNOTHOLE...:sob: I MISS MY FRIENDS! :sigh:
I WAS MAD BEFORE, BUT I KNOW NOW THAT THEY :huck: DID IT OUT OF *LOVE* FOR ME...

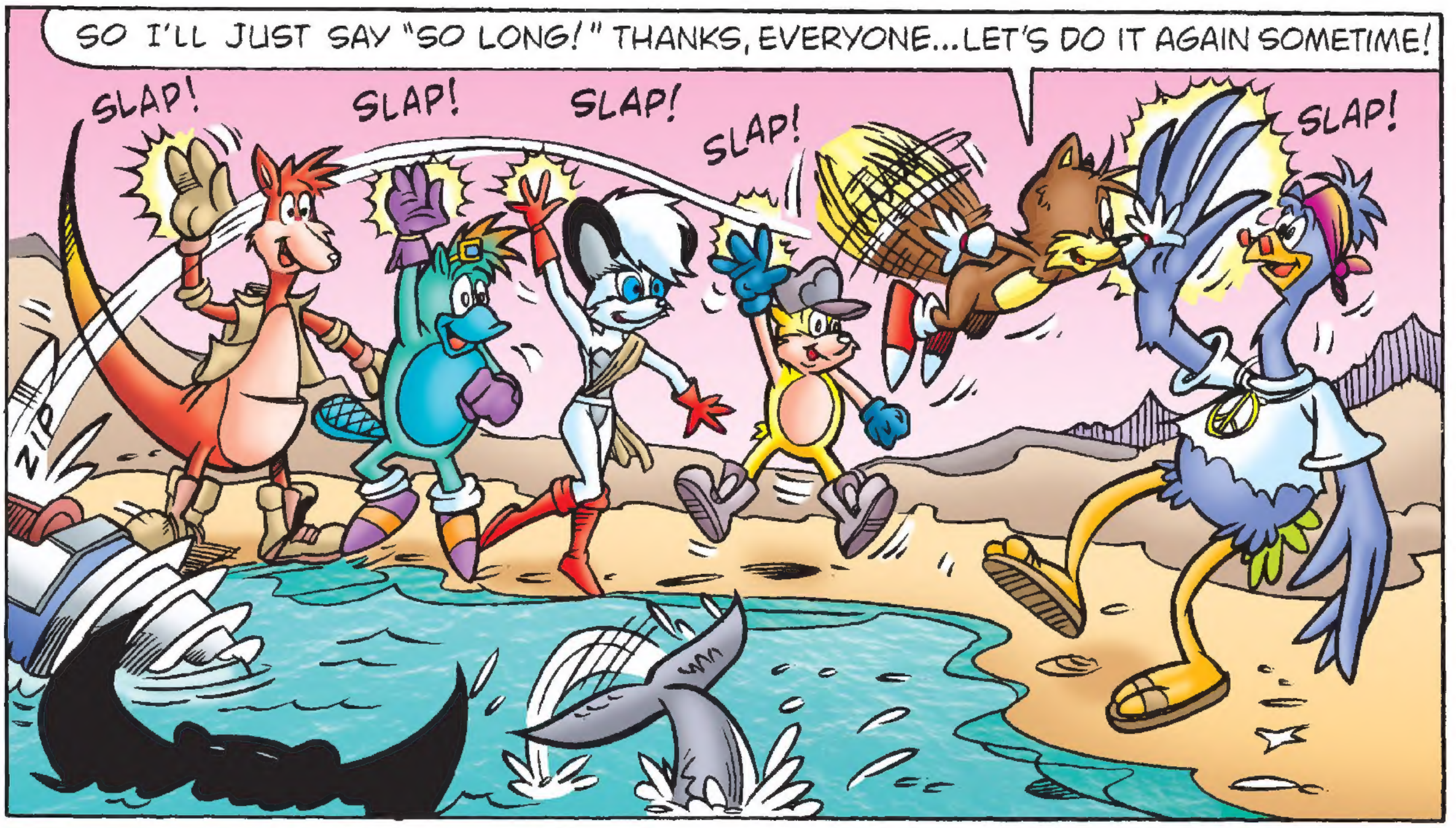
THE TROUBLE IS, NOW THAT I WANT TO GO HOME, I CAN'T GET THERE... :sniffle:
HEY, C'MON! IT'S ALREADY SALTY DOWN HERE!
sploot!

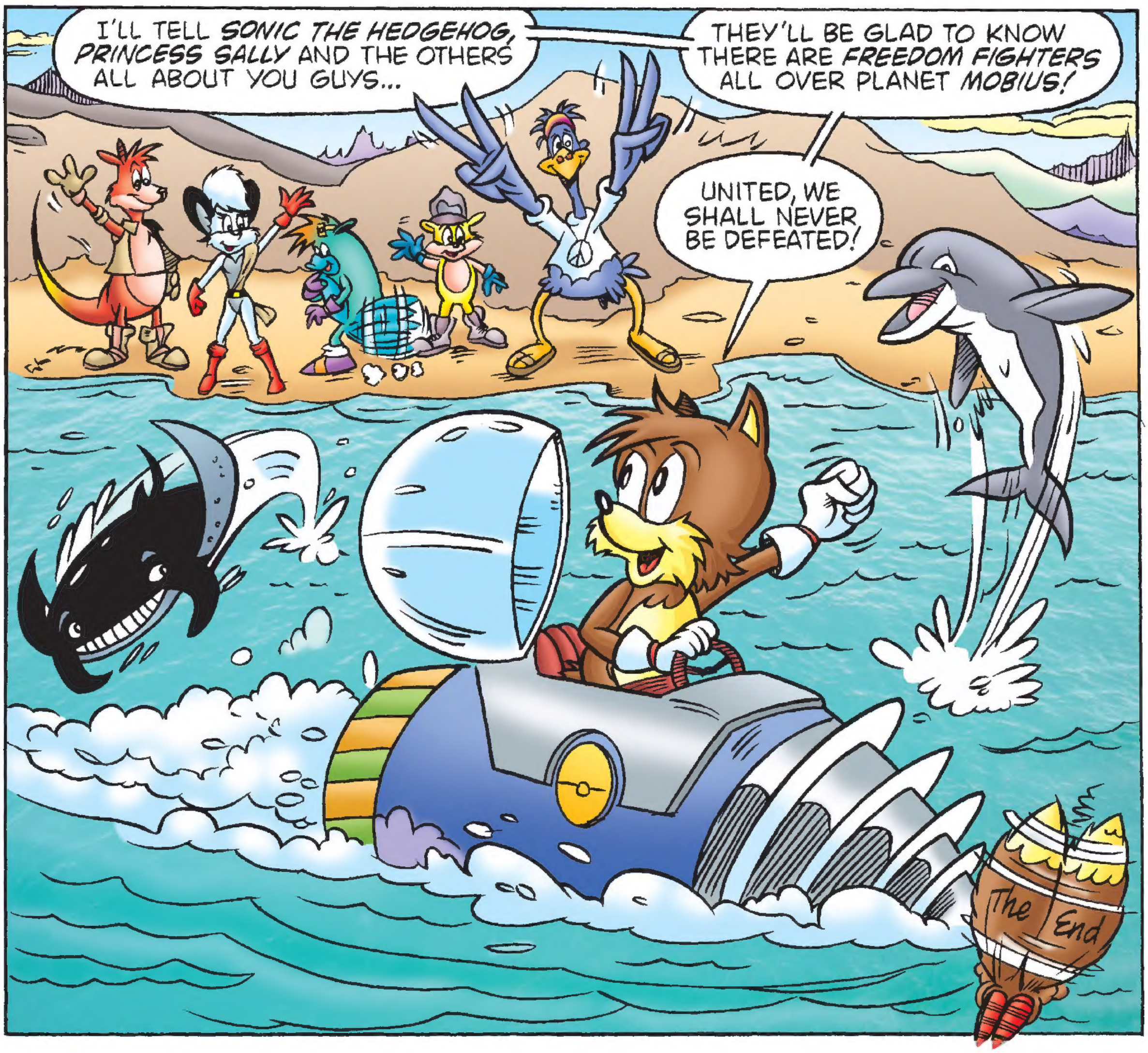

?
?
RAY! MY UNDERSEA PAL FROM THE FORTY FATHOMS FREEDOM FIGHTERS!.. AND BOTTLENOSE!
HIYA, TAILS!
HAVE WE GOT A SURPRISE FOR YOU!


BINGO!
chirp!
SKBOOSH!
chirp!
MY SUBMARINE, THE SEA FOX!


GOOD AS NEW! WE THOUGHT OCTOBOT HAD SCUTTLED IT, BUT MY PAL, BRAIN CORAL FIXED IT UP!
THIS IS GREAT! I'LL BE HOME IN A FEW DAYS!
PLOP!


YEAH, WELL...G'DAY, MATE!
WRITE SOON!
PEACE 'n' LOVE, MAN!
AWW... IT'S GONNA BE SO HARD TO SAY GOODBYE...


SO I'LL JUST SAY "SO LONG!" THANKS, EVERYONE...LET'S DO IT AGAIN SOMETIME!
SLAP!
SLAP!
SLAP!
SLAP!
SLAP!
ZIP


I'LL TELL *SONIC THE HEDGEHOG, PRINCESS SALLY* AND THE OTHERS ALL ABOUT YOU GUYS...
THEY'LL BE GLAD TO KNOW THERE ARE *FREEDOM FIGHTERS* ALL OVER PLANET *MOBIUS!*
UNITED, WE SHALL NEVER BE DEFEATED!
The End